

King's Daughters' Health Needs Assessment

Community Leader Interviews

Conducted August, September & October 2013

With 44 Community Leaders Including Medical, Clergy,
Educational, Civic, Business and Other Leaders

Background on Community Leaders Interviews

- King's Daughters' Health solicited names of community leaders in a wide variety of areas including medical, civic, educational, business, religious and other areas in each of the five counties served.
- Letters were sent to more than 65 individuals who were identified as community leaders within the five counties KDH serves.
- Follow up telephone calls were made by Carri Dirksen during August, September and October, 2013.
- A total of 44 interviews were completed. Individual comments are confidential; all comments are combined for this report. Due to the small sample from each county and due to the idea that KDH serves the general area, it is not appropriate to look at results at an individual county level.

Community Leaders' Opinions on Health Issues (Using a 7 point scale with 5, 6 and 7 being a major problem; 3 and 4 being a minor problem; 1 and 2 being not an issue)

	Major	Minor	Not an Issue
Substance Abuse / Addictions	97%	3%	0%
Overweight and Obesity	94%	6%	0%
Tobacco Use	80%	20%	0%
Chronic Disease	78%	22%	0%
Physical Activity	77%	23%	0%
Mental Health	69%	31%	0%
Access to Health Care (Insurance and uninsured)	57%	29%	14%
Responsible Sexual Behavior	54%	46%	0%
Maternal and Child Health (Teen Pregnancy)	49%	43%	8%
Injury & Violence (Domestic Abuse / Sexual Assault)	43%	46%	11%
Special Needs / Disabled / Impaired	31%	50%	19%
Immunization	17%	31%	52%
Infectious Disease	14%	43%	43%
Occupational and Safety Health	8%	36%	56%
Environmental Quality	6%	71%	23%

Community Leaders' Opinions on KDH's Role in Addressing Issues

	Leadership	Supporting	No Specific
Access to Health Care	78%	17%	5%
Chronic Disease	72%	28%	0%
Physical Activity	66%	34%	0%
Tobacco Use	65%	35%	0%
Overweight and Obesity	62%	38%	0%
Substance Abuse / Addictions	45%	55%	0%
Immunization	37%	53%	10%
Maternal and Child Health (Teen Pregnancy)	33%	67%	0%
Infectious Disease	32%	68%	0%
Responsible Sexual Behavior	31%	58%	11%
Mental Health	26%	68%	6%
Injury & Violence (Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault)	21%	79%	0%
Occupational and Safety Health	15%	60%	25%
Special Needs / Disabled / Impaired	13%	75%	12%
Environmental Quality	12%	44%	44%

Community Leaders' Comments on Health Issues

Physical Activity

- Many in all five counties cited that this a major concern for the youth. The only exercise some children are receiving is a 15 minute recess during the school day. There is little if any exercise for children when they are at their own homes due to lack of parental supervision and/or fear for children's safety.
- Community leaders in both Trimble and Jefferson County cited the need for a YMCA with affordable rates.
- The need for a Girls on the Run or a similar type program was mentioned by several in Trimble County due to the lack of parks and sidewalks in that county.

Overweight and Obesity

- Major issue in all counties and there is particular concern for the youth in each county.
- Nutritional education was cited by many as a need to help combat the issue. "Too many families rely on fast food and frozen pizza" was one comment expressed.

Tobacco Use

- The need for a Tobacco Cessation program was cited as a need in each county.
- Education on the new smokeless cigarettes was cited as a need by many.

Substance Abuse

- All five counties felt there is a huge need for more education about substance abuse from early school age on up. They felt the education effort needs to be a combined effort between law enforcement, KDH, area churches and the school systems.
- Several cited that they know this is not just KDH's problem, but they felt KDH needed to step up and take the leadership role in addressing the issue.
- Prescription drug abuse is an issue in all five counties.
- Heroin is becoming a bigger problem. It is highly addictive and attracts young kids.
- An uptick in substance abuse has lead to an increase in child neglect cases in several counties.
- Underage drinking was cited by several as a problem that needs to be addressed.
- Babies being born addicted to drugs is a major problem.

Community Leaders' Comments on Health Issues

Responsible Sexual Behavior

- Several cited that they are seeing children become sexually active at an earlier age. They felt education needed to begin at the fifth grade level. Several felt KDH needs to get back involved in addressing this issue.
- A few mentioned that there is an increasing number of women who have had multiple sexual partners with no idea of who the father(s) of their child(ren) is.
- There needs to be more education on Sexually Transmitted Diseases. Both among the 50+ age group who no longer use protection for pregnancy and therefore are not protected from STDs and re-education at the high school level.
- Many girls are getting sexually involved at an early age "looking for love" - several felt more programs that promote empowerment like Girls on the Run need to be put in place.

Mental Health

- Several cited that mental health problems are under diagnosed among children toddler age and older due to issues with chemical imbalances. They mentioned that many children show little or no coping skills which leads to increased anxiety and depression.
- Several cited evidence based research that shows the earlier help is given to families with mental issues the less likely substance abuse will occur.
- More education is needed on the signs of what to look for in regard to mental health and on how to get past the stigma if you or a family member has a mental health issue.
- Teen suicide is an issue that needs to be addressed.
- All five county areas cited increased anxiety/mood disorders.
- Many expressed a need for psychiatrists to evaluate, prescribe medication and adjust meds/treatment as needed.
- Frustration was voiced by many that it is hard to find help for those with mental health issues and that once help is found - it is even harder to insure that individuals continue with their appointments/medications.
- Several cited the problem with mental health professionals not seeing individuals who are self-pay (without insurance).
- Group therapy availability was cited as a need by several individuals.
- With the closure of the Madison State Hospital and other nearby facilities, several cited that there are several mentally ill people on the streets with nowhere to go.
- Many felt that offering a child psychiatrist via TeleMed was a good step by KDH, but they felt that TeleMed needed to be expanded for all age groups.

Community Leaders' Comments on Health Issues

Injury & Violence

- Lifestyle choices were cited as a precursor to increased injury and violence.
- Incest was mentioned as an issue in Switzerland County.
- The work of Turning Point was cited by many. A few stated that they felt KDH needed to make more of a financial commitment to Turning Point.
- SANE nurses are needed in Jefferson County. Victims shouldn't have to travel to Floyd County to be evaluated.

Environmental Quality

- A few cited that the spraying of crops in the rural areas has caused an increase in respiratory issues.
- Concern over the air and water due to power plants was mentioned by several in counties that lie along the Ohio River.

Immunization

- The health departments in several counties were cited as doing a wonderful job immunizing school age children.
- The increased number of Amish practicing citizens was mentioned as being less likely to get vaccinated. However, in times of natural disaster such as tornadoes, the Amish have voluntarily vaccinated themselves against tetanus.

Access to Health Care

- Several mentioned that there are elementary age children not receiving medical care due to transportation issues and/or parents who are simply not following through on their children's care.
- A reduction in physician hours was cited by several in Switzerland County as being an issue.
- Several cited an issue with those that are uninsured not being able to afford their meds in Switzerland County.
- Dr. Yap not taking Passport (Kentucky Medicaid) patients was mentioned in Trimble County as an issue. The KDH Clinic in Trimble County is finding it is difficult to absorb all the patients on Passport in need of care.

Community Leaders' Comments on Health Issues

Maternal & Child Health (including Teen Pregnancy)

- Several felt education is needed on the importance of prenatal care.
- Many mentioned that babies are being born addicted to drugs with mothers who are not interested in learning how to change their habits.
- In South Ripley County, they are seeing more 14 and 15 year old mothers.
- Several cited that it is harder for pregnant women to get Medicaid, so they forego their monthly visits. The need for more physicians to take non-Medicaid patients was cited.
- There are mixed reactions regarding the move of the Jefferson County WIC office from Madison to Hanover. Those in Hanover are very happy to have it there. Those from Madison are finding it to be a hardship especially for those without transportation (\$9 round trip via Catch a Ride).

Infectious Disease

- All five counties mentioned an increase in Hepatitis C cases due to increased substance abuse
- Bedbugs were cited as a problem throughout Switzerland County.

Occupational & Safety Health

- The need for KDH's involvement at some level was cited. Providing proactive education to area employers was one area mentioned.
- Farm equipment accidents and ATV accidents are a concern to several.

Special Needs/Disabled/Impaired

- Transportation is a major concern. Catch a Ride is great, but it has limited hours and cannot handle all disabilities.
- Those with family members with disabilities have to go out of town to find counselors to deal with issues.
- Several cited that there is a lack of day care options for adult family members with special needs/disabilities and overnight care options.

Community Leaders' Comments on Health Issues

Chronic Disease

- Smoking and obesity were cited as two major factors contributing to the increase in chronic disease. People not going in for follow-up medical care was cited.
- Grandparents raising their children's children was cited as a factor due to the additional stress involved.
- The need for more Women's Health education was mentioned - particularly in regards to heart disease.
- Counties outside of Jefferson County would welcome a Diabetes Educator to lead Diabetes Support Groups.
- Several felt that they were very fortunate to have a good Cancer Center in Madison. However, they felt many in their county (outside of Jefferson) are unaware of what the KDH Cancer Center offers and are instead driving further to metropolitan areas for their treatment.
- Support groups for all the major chronic diseases are needed that meet in each of the counties versus having people having to drive to Madison in order to attend.

Community Leaders' Suggestions for KDH for Services or Meeting Needs

Types of medical specialties needed:

- Psychiatry
- Occupational Therapy
- Endocrinology
- Rheumatology
- Weight Loss Clinic which includes Dietetic Counseling and Bariatric Surgery

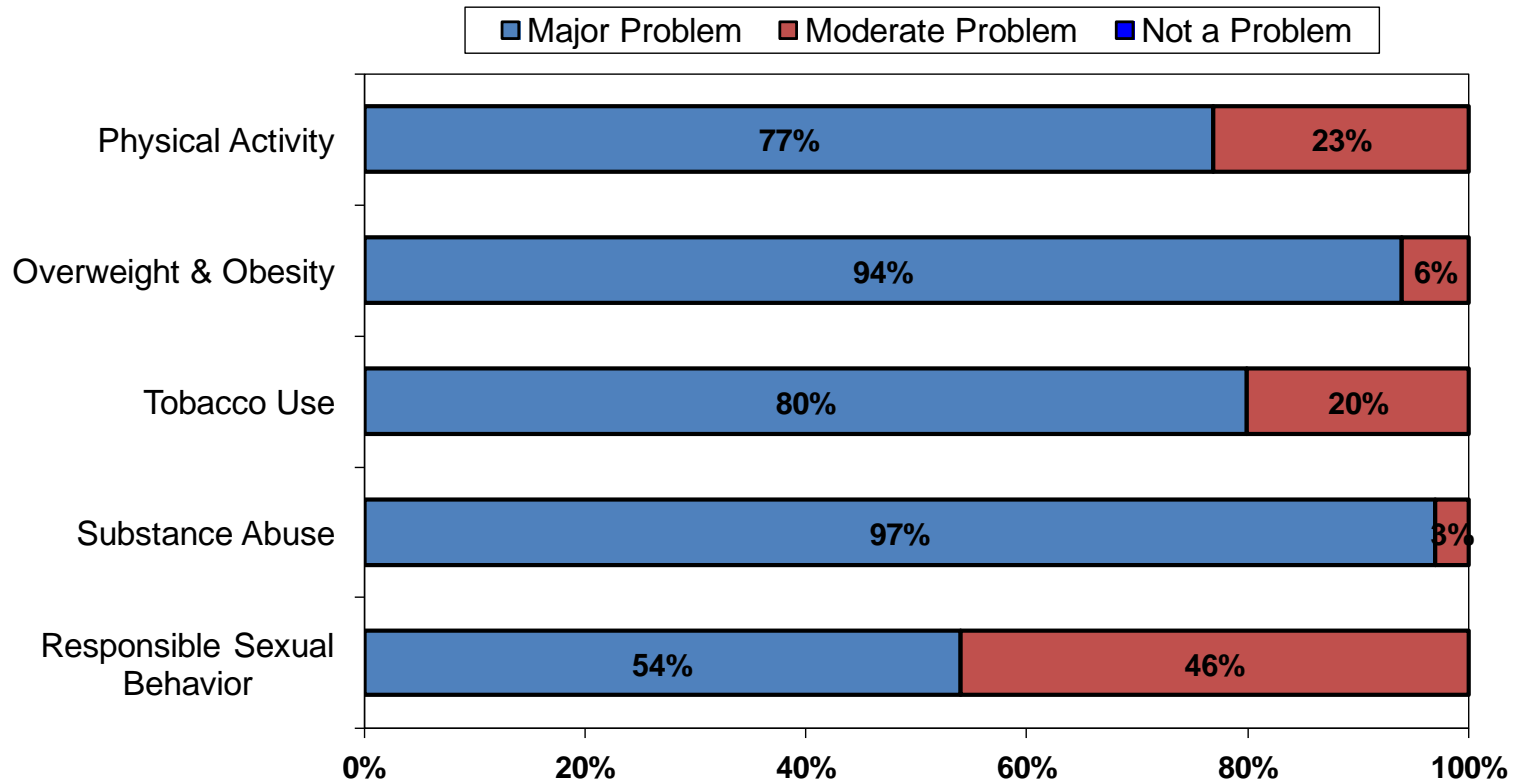
Types of programs/services needed

- Smoking Cessation Classes
- Mental Health Counseling
- Nutrition and cooking classes aimed at school-aged children through adult which include portion size, how many calories are in the food we eat etc.
- Partnering with schools on physical activity/overweight & obesity programs aimed at all school age children which are offered as part of the school day.
- A regular program for prescription meds disposal
- A pain management clinic in Jefferson County.
- Alateen program in conjunction with Alcoholics Anonymous
- NA (Narcotics Anonymous) Program
- SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Nurse
- Several cited that a campaign of some sort need to be created by government leaders and KDH to educate and get people more active - "Get Moving Madison" was one slogan provided.
- There needs to be a partnership between KDH and the area school systems' cafeteria managers on addressing the obesity issue.

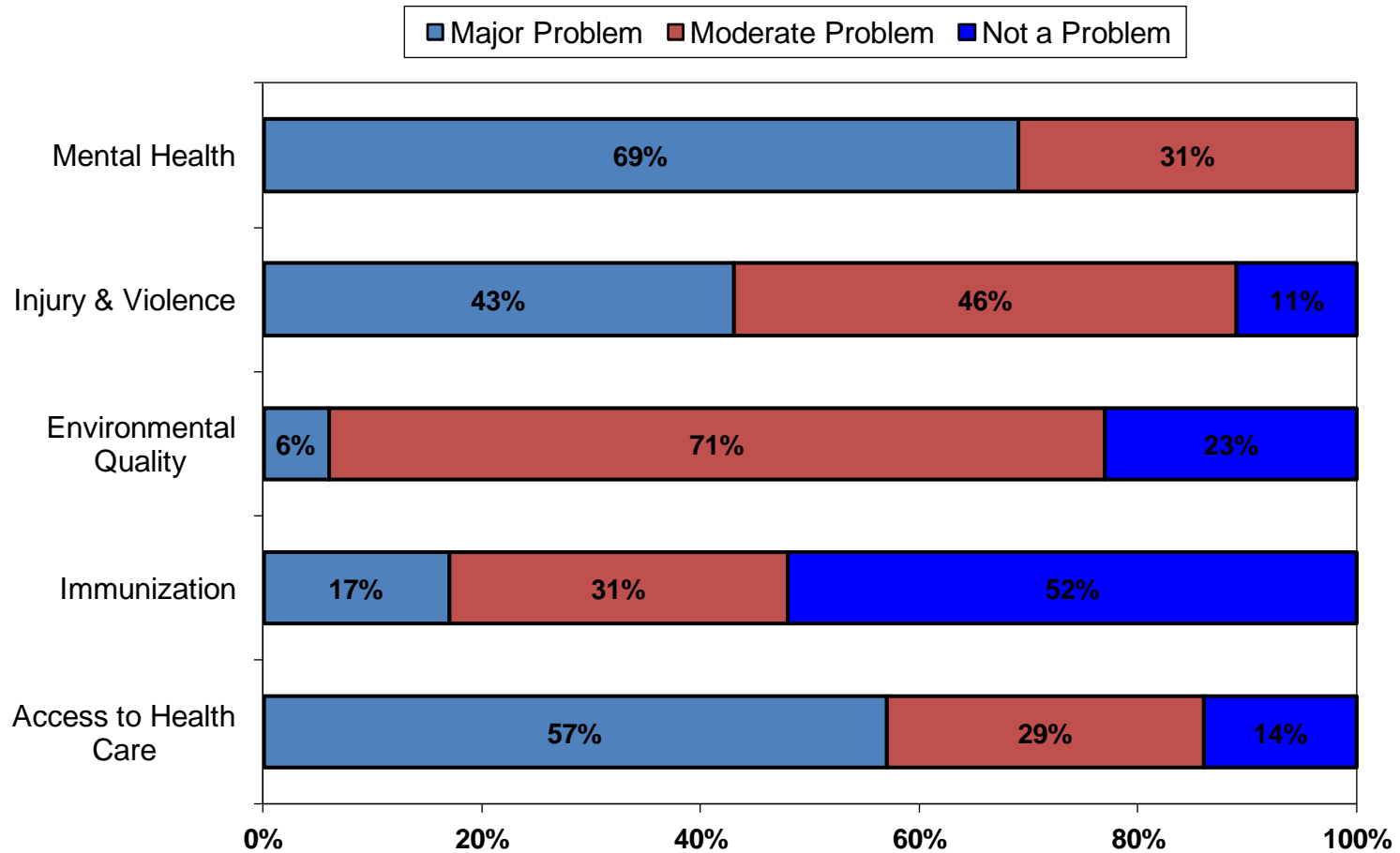
Community Leaders' Additional Comments

- “KDH needs to take more of a role in educating the public on obesity and the need for physical activity. KDH employees should serve as an example of wellness. It is very hard to take health advice from someone who is overweight and unhealthy.”
- “Those that work at KDH should serve as good health models instead of being seen smoking outside and along the highway.”
- With the opening of the new hospital, several cited that there is confusion on what is open and where. They felt there needs to be better communication especially for those residing in counties outside of Jefferson County. “KDH should not assume everyone knows where to go.”
- The need for KDH to advertise their programs outside of Jefferson County was mentioned by several in newspapers such as the Trimble County Banner, the Carroll County News Democrat and the Versailles Republican.
- Transportation was a major issue cited by many. Several stated that Catch a Ride is a great program, but it does not run in the evenings or on the weekends. In some counties, Catch a Ride requires a call to secure a spot two weeks prior which can be an issue.
- Lack of affordable Dental Care was cited by several.
- “KDH should utilize Channel 15 to educate community on all type of health issues.”
- The need for more walk-in clinics like the one Vikki Connors offers was mentioned.
- There is some confusion why KDH does not handle all of its own labs. One individual commented that it appears that KDH bills more for labs because they are sent out of the hospital for processing.
- Lack of night time day care for those working second and third shifts was cited as an issue in several counties.
- Finding an affordable dependable caregiver is an issue for those caring for sick and or elderly family members.
- It was cited by several that there needs to be a focus on reducing the truancy rate at area high schools. Many felt truancy leads to an increase in substance abuse.
- Emergency preparedness was mentioned as a concern in several counties.

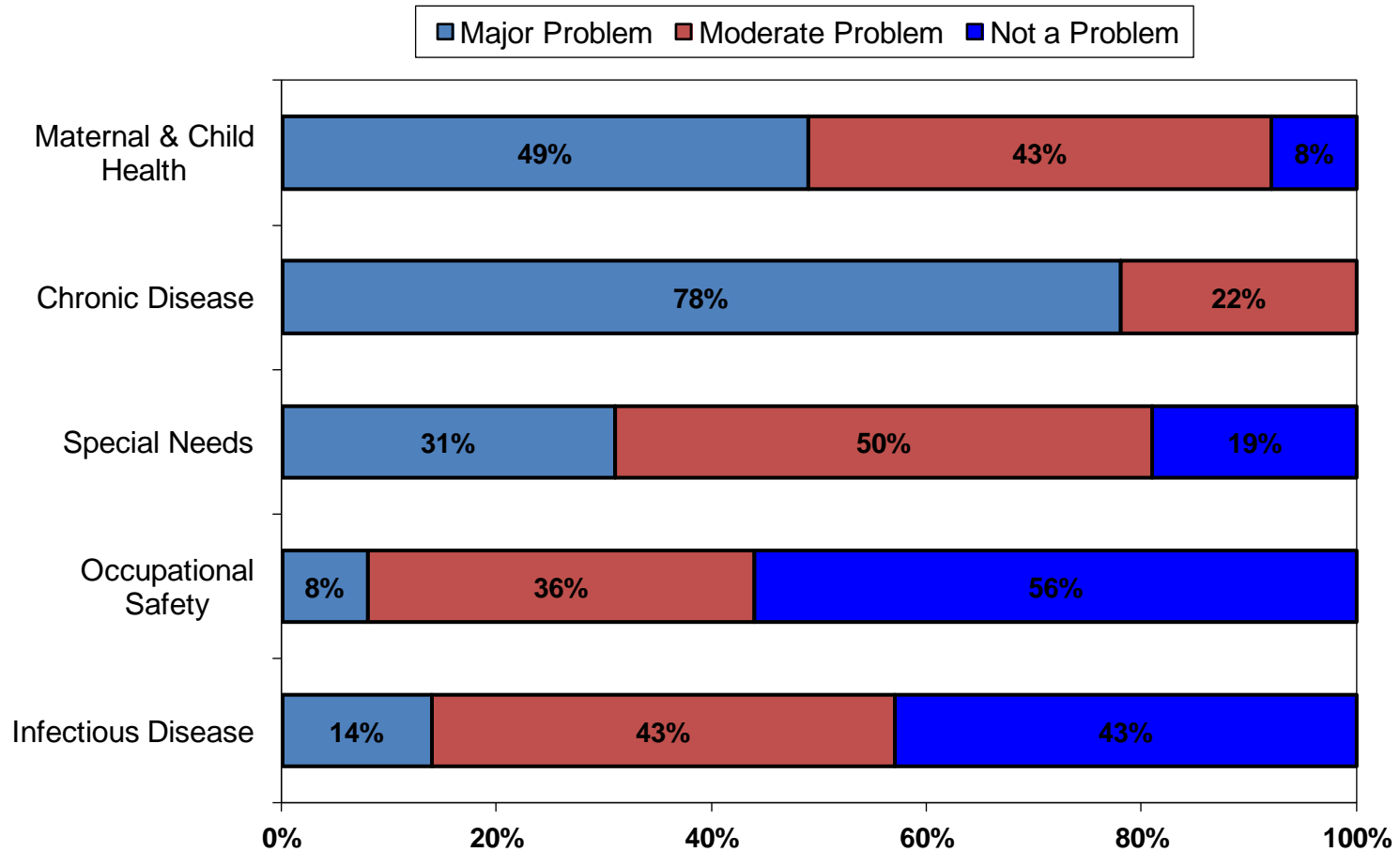
To what extent are the following topics a problem in your community?



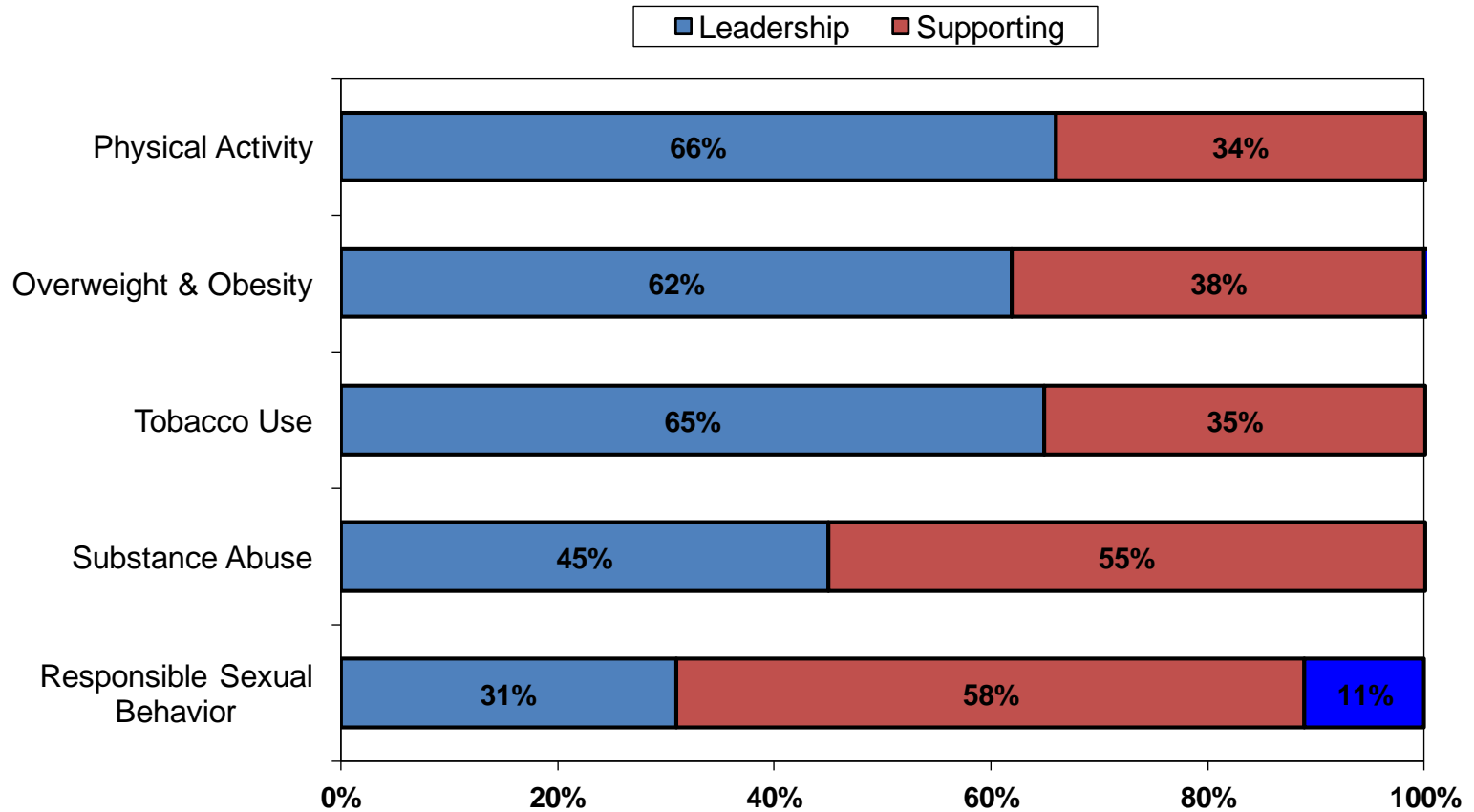
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