

# Risk & Protective Factors that Impact Youth Development

## RISK FACTORS

Risk factors increase the likelihood that young people will develop health and social problems.



## PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Protective factors help buffer young people with high levels of risk factors from developing health and social problems.

- Availability of Drugs & Firearms
- Community Laws & Norms Favorable Toward Drug Use, Firearms & Crime
- Media Portrayals of the Behavior
- Transitions & Mobility
- Low Neighborhood Attachment & Community Disorganization
- Extreme Economic Deprivation



- Opportunities for Positive Social Involvement
- Recognition for Positive Behavior
- Bonding to Prosocial Others

- Family History of the Problem Behavior
- Family Management Problems
- Family Conflict
- Favorable Parental Attitudes and Involvement in the Problem Behavior



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- Academic Failure Beginning in Late Elementary School
- Lack of Commitment to School



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- Early and Persistent Antisocial Behavior
- Rebelliousness
- Gang Involvement
- Friends Who Engage in the Problem Behavior
- Favorable Attitudes Toward the Problem Behavior
- Early Initiation of the Problem Behavior
- Constitutional Factors



- Cognitive Competence
- Emotional Competence
- Social/Behavioral Competence
- Self-Efficacy
- Belief in the Future
- Self-determination
- Pro-social Norms
- Spirituality