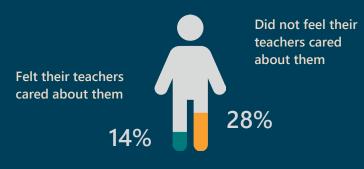
# SUPPORTING YOUTH WHO USE SUBSTANCES

Members of McCreary's Youth Research Academy analyzed data from the 2018 BC Adolescent Health Survey. Here are some key messages from our report *Prescribing pain: Misuse of* prescription medication, heroin and other substances among youth in BC. We hope they will be used to support young people who use opioids and other substances.

#### **FEELING CONNECTED TO SCHOOL**

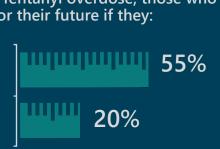
Among youth who had tried alcohol or cannabis, those who went on to misuse prescription medication if they:



Among youth who misused prescription medication and had lost someone to a fentanyl overdose, those who felt hopeful for their future if they:

> Felt like a part of their school

Did not feel like a part of their school



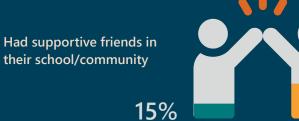
1%

14%

34%

### **POSITIVE FRIENDSHIPS**

Among youth who had misused prescription medication, those who also felt extreme despair in the past month if they:



35%

Among youth who had tried alcohol or cannabis, those who went on to misuse prescription medication if they:

Had supportive friends in their school/community

17%

Did not find their friends helpful when approached

Did not find their friends

helpful when approached

#### FEELING CONNECTED TO COMMUNITY

Among youth who had tried alcohol or cannabis, those who went on to misuse prescription medication if they:



Among youth who misused prescription medication, those who considered suicide in the past year if they:

Felt their activities were meaningful

Did not feel their activities were meaningful



41%

#### **RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILY**

Among youth who had tried alcohol or cannabis, those who used heroin or misused prescription medication if they:



respected them

Did not feel family respected them

Among youth who misued prescription medication, those who felt hopeful for their future if they:



## **STABILITY**

Among youth who misused prescription medication, those who felt like a part of their community if they:



To learn more about the Youth Research Academy, the report and the BC Adolescent Health Survey visit www.mcs.bc.ca.





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