

How (And What) Are We Already Doing? In Preventing Underage Drinking and High Risk Drinking Among Young Adults

Following is a list of activities that can be undertaken by one or more of our critical partners (parents, schools, youth, law enforcement, and retailers) to preventing underage drinking and high risk drinking among young adults. In general, they are activities that

- Target groups of people (as opposed to individuals, one at a time), and
- Are proven to be effective in reducing unsafe alcohol use (often referred to as “evidence-based”).

Please review this list of potential activities and identify the areas where your community is already taking action against underage drinking and high risk drinking among young adults. Add brief notes or bulleted information where appropriate to explain the nature of the activity.

Based on the responses we receive by Friday, February 1, 2008 Work Group staff will prepare and present an asset map of what is happening across southern Kennebec County. We would like to highlight effective and successful efforts in individual communities, and share them with people in other communities across the region.

Notes:

- 1) *Don't feel you have to complete the entire survey. Concentrate on those areas where you have special knowledge, and a reasonably good sense of what is and isn't being done.*
- 2) *This is not an exhaustive list of evidence-based strategies. Please add things that your community is doing, that are not on the list, which you think work and are important to do.*

Communities You Are Reporting For (Check All That Apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Augusta	<input type="checkbox"/> Winthrop	<input type="checkbox"/> Monmouth
<input type="checkbox"/> Gardiner	<input type="checkbox"/> Hallowell	<input type="checkbox"/> Manchester
<input type="checkbox"/> Pittston	<input type="checkbox"/> Farmingdale	<input type="checkbox"/> Readfield
<input type="checkbox"/> Randolph		<input type="checkbox"/> Mt Vernon
<input type="checkbox"/> West Gardiner		<input type="checkbox"/> Wayne

Your Name (Optional): _____

Parents

Parent Engagement and Leadership

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Does the community have parents who have become spokespeople for safe use of alcohol?
			2) Are parents engaged in and supportive of evidence-based initiatives to reduce underage drinking and high risk drinking undertaken by: ___ Schools ___ Law enforcement ___ Individual businesses or business groups

Education and Skill Building Targeting Parents

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Are materials promoting awareness of what parents can do to prevent underage drinking and high risk drinking distributed widely and regularly?
			2) Are there skill-building opportunities for parents who want to learn how to help prevent underage and high risk drinking?
			3) Are there materials distributed to parents about the laws related to hosting parties that make alcohol available to minors?

Schools

School Engagement and Leadership

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Is there an established, standing committee or group that is responsible for substance abuse issues (including alcohol use), and oversees the implementation of substance abuse related policies and programs?
			2) Are <u>parents</u> engaged and involved in the development and implementation of programs and policy related to alcohol and other drug use?
			3) Are <u>students</u> engaged and involved in the development and implementation of programs and policy related to alcohol and other drug use?
			4) Is there public recognition and support when school officials taken action to enforce policies related to alcohol and other drug use?

School Policy

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Is there a strong school policy related to alcohol and other drug use?
			2) Does the policy provide for assessment and referral for students who violate the rules
			3) Does the policy provide for <u>in-house</u> suspension for students who violate the rules, reducing the likelihood that time will under suspension will be spent using alcohol or other drugs
			4) Are parents routinely notified of policy violations and involved in processing of violations?
			5) Is the policy consistently enforced by all appropriate staff?
			6) Are parents and youth regularly informed of the policy and consequences of violating the policy?

School Based Awareness, Education and Skill Building, Intervention Services:

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Does the school offer evidence-based substance abuse prevention curricula to all students <input type="checkbox"/> In the elementary grades <input type="checkbox"/> In middle school (such as Life Skills) <input type="checkbox"/> In the high school
			2) Is there an educational/skill-building program offered to youth who are caught violating the substance abuse policy?
			3) Are youth who are caught violating the substance abuse policy <u>screened</u> for the need for clinical evaluation and/or treatment for chemical dependency and related problems?
			4) Are “no-use” messages woven into ongoing school programs, including extra-curricular activities like sports?
			5) Are the social and recreational gatherings for youth on school grounds aggressively maintained as alcohol-free events?
			6) Does the school do “Project Graduation”

Youth

Youth Engagement and Leadership

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Are there opportunities for youth (either through school or through community programs) to come together and take action around alcohol and other drug issues in their community?

Education, Skill Building, and Support for Youth

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Are the social and recreational gatherings for youth in the community aggressively maintained as alcohol-free events?
			2) Are there local groups, clubs, or associations for youth that specifically recognize and support non-use of alcohol and other drugs?

Law Enforcement

Partnership With the Community and Others

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Is there an on-going dialogue between law enforcement and community members about the nature of enforcement of laws related to the use of alcohol?
			2) Is there public recognition and support when local law enforcement officials taken action to enforce the laws related to alcohol use?
			3) Is there cooperation among neighboring departments on enforcement activities?

Policy and Practice

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Does local law enforcement have a policy related to alcohol violations that ensures that: ___ parents always notified of a violation ___ violations always pursued ___ the source of the alcohol is consistently investigated
			2) Is there training for officers in enforcement of underage drinking laws?
			3) Is there cooperation with neighboring departments on enforcement?

Specific Enforcement Activity--Please indicate nature of enforcement in the community at this time:

Type of Violation (and common assertive enforcement strategies)	Levels of Enforcement		
	Enforced When Flagrant Violations Are Encountered Incidental to Other Police Work	Details Scheduled Occasionally to Promote Compliance With the Law in this Area	Aggressive, Regular Enforcement of this Area of the Law in this Area
Underage drinking by individuals			
Underage drinking parties (party patrols)			
Furnishing to minors			
Hosting parties where alcohol is provided			
OUI, and related motor vehicle related violations (sobriety checks)			
Retail sales to minors (retail compliance checks)			
Retail sales to visibly intoxicated people (retail compliance checks)			

Alcohol Retailers

Retailer Engagement and Leadership

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Generally speaking, are the businesses in the community regarded as responsible partners who are doing their part to keep alcohol out of the hands of youth, and individuals who are already intoxicated?
			2) Do retailers work with groups that seek to promote awareness of Maine law related to alcohol sales (e.g., work with area youth groups on the Sticker Shock program, which puts warning stickers on beer packaging)?

Retail Store Practices

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) These practices are very common or universal among area alcohol retailers: <input type="checkbox"/> Posting of signs notifying purchasers of Maine law related to alcohol sales <input type="checkbox"/> IDs are always checked for purchasers who are under 30?
			2) Retailers routinely and regularly train their staff in responsible beverage server methods/refusal of sales skills?
			3) Retailers avoid marketing strategies that expose young people excessive, flagrant advertising of alcohol?

Alcohol Server Practices

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Establishments serving alcohol routinely and regularly train their staff in methods/refusal of sales skills
			2) Establishments serving alcohol avoid drink pricing strategies that promote binge drinking

Worksites

Worksites as partners in promoting community awareness of the problem

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Have selected employers agreed to help disseminate information about the risks of underage drinking and high risk drinking among young people, and how best to respond to the problem (e.g., parent education materials; self-help groups in the area; self assessment tools for people who may be interested in determining their personal risk)?

Community Wide Partnerships

Yes	No	Not Sure	Strategy
			1) Are there community sponsored events that carry a “no-use” message?
			2) Have local media outlets become a partner in: <input type="checkbox"/> Promoting public awareness of alcohol related problems when they occur? <input type="checkbox"/> Publicizing positive activities and results when they occur?

Thank You For Providing This Information! Please return the completed form to:

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