

TOWN HALL MEETING

Preventing Underage Drinking



If you are a parent, youth, community member, faith-based organization leader, teacher, youth worker, local government official or health professional interested in learning more about the effects of underage drinking and steps to prevent underage alcohol use, you need to be at this Town Hall Meeting.

Thursday, March 25, 2010
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

This Town Hall Meeting is part of a **national effort** to increase understanding and awareness of underage drinking, its consequences, new research, and impact on individuals and communities. Steps to prevent underage alcohol use will be discussed.

Dove Conference Center, Prairie Heart Institute, 619 E. Mason, Springfield, IL

Town Hall Meeting Format

Speaker Panel • Prevention Displays • Question & Answer • Refreshments

Did you Know?

- Among eighth graders, about 1 in 20 (5.4 percent) reported being drunk at least once in the past month. Nearly 1 out of 7, 10th graders (14.4 percent) and about 2 out of 7, 12th graders (27.6 percent) reported being drunk at least once in the last month.¹
- Although drinking by persons under the age of 21 is illegal, people aged 12 to 20 drink 11 percent of all alcohol consumed in the United States.²
- Youth who start drinking before age 15 are five times more likely to develop alcohol dependence or abuse later in life than those who begin drinking at or after age 21.^{3,4}

Sponsored by:

Sangamon County Coalition on Underage Drinking

For more information contact:

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References

- ¹ National Institute on Drug Abuse. 2008. Monitoring the Future: National Results on Adolescent Drug Use—Overview of Key Findings. 2008 (electronic version). Retrieved from <http://www.drugabuse.gov/PDF/overview2008.pdf>.
- ² Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Drinking in America: Myths, Realities, and Prevention Policy. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; 2005. Available at http://www.udetc.org/documents/Drinking_in_America.pdf (PDF). Accessed March 28, 2008.
- ³ Hingson RW, Heeren T, Winter MR. Age at drinking onset and alcohol dependence: age at onset, duration, and severity. *Pediatrics* 2006;160:739-746.
- ⁴ Office of Applied Studies. The NSDUH Report: Alcohol dependence or abuse and age at first use. Rockville, MD: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; October 2004. Available at <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k4/ageDependence/ageDependence.htm>. Accessed March 31, 2008

