Grand Forks County

Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG)

WHAT WE DID
Grand Forks Public Health Department (GFPHD) applied for and received a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG) from the North Dakota Department of Human Services: Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to address Underage Drinking and Adult Binge Drinking in Grand Forks County.

Accomplishments:
Members of the Grand Forks Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (SAPC) and the Community and Campus Committee To Reduce High Risk Alcohol Use (CCC) completed a Community Needs Assessment for Grand Forks County, which includes a community overview, local alcohol consumption use data, local alcohol-related consequences data, community perceptions, interviews with community members, a list of priorities and recommendations for action.

WHAT WE FOUND!
3 out of 10 high school students reported having at least one drink of alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days.
Data obtained from surveys illustrate that alcohol is readily accessible by youth in Grand Forks County from family and friends:
- Close to half of Grand Forks Public School Students report that alcohol is EASY or VERY EASY to access.
- Over half of UND Students surveyed report obtaining alcohol from friends age 21 and older.
- According to the Community Readiness Survey, people living in our region believe it would not be difficult for youth to obtain alcohol by stealing it or getting it from parents or other family members.

IMPAIRED DRIVING: In Grand Forks County, on average, there are 3 DUI arrests every 2 days. Over the past ten years, law enforcement has made an average of 579 DUI arrests every year in Grand Forks County with an 85% conviction rate.

Alcohol was a factor in 75% of the cases in which people received medical treatment after an assault.

Underage Drinking and Adult Binge Drinking are a problem in our community because they contribute to:
- Alcohol poisoning
- Burns
- Cancer
- Child maltreatment
- Child neglect
- Dementia
- Depression
- Domestic violence
- Drowning
- Falls
- Family problems
- Liver disease
- Lost productivity
- Motor-vehicle crashes
- Physical assault
- Sexual assault
- Suicide
- Stroke
- Theft
- Unemployment
- Unintended pregnancy
- Vandalism

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Grand Forks County has a variety of strengths with which to build upon in continuing current efforts, as well as some challenges to overcome in moving forward. Below are identified areas of success and areas in need of improvement with which to focus future efforts, serving as a guide in assisting with developing an action plan for the strategic planning of future efforts.

Assets and Strengths

- Grand Forks stakeholders believe the support of local leadership strengthens existing efforts.
- Numerous efforts to address underage drinking and adult binge drinking are already in place.

Data-driven decision making, evaluation, and implementation of evidence-based practices strengthens local efforts to address underage drinking and adult binge drinking.

Needs and Challenges

Efforts to incorporate culturally-relevant adaptations to current and future efforts would strengthen local prevention strategies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2012 CORE Survey</th>
<th>2007-2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prevalence of Alcohol-Related Behaviors</strong></td>
<td><strong>UND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Underage Alcohol Use (Past 30 Days)</td>
<td>67.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Binge Drinking (Past 2 Weeks)</td>
<td>54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Driving Under the Influence (Past year)</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
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* National Reference Group (NRG) is comprised of data from 56,937 undergraduate students from universities around the nation. North Dakota Reference (ND Ref) is Core student data from institutions across the state of ND. Both provide relevant comparisons using 2010 data.

WHAT’S NEXT?

Using data from the needs assessment, the Grand Forks Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (SAPC) and the Community and Campus Committee To Reduce High Risk Alcohol Use (CCC) will begin the PLANNING phase for the SPF SIG Project which will include researching effective prevention strategies and aligning them with what will work in Grand Forks County given available resources to reduce Underage Drinking, Adult Binge Drinking, and Impaired Driving.

What can YOU do?

Your support could be as simple as learning about substance use/abuse issues, voicing your support limiting youth access to alcohol in your home/business, modeling positive behaviors, talking to the youth in your lives, or you can join the PLANNING.

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