

The Costs of Underage Drinking in MONTANA

ALCOHOL PROBLEMS	TOTAL COST (in Millions)
Youth Violence	\$70.9
Youth Traffic Crashes	\$130.9
High-Risk Sex, Ages 14-20	\$23.1
Youth Property Crime	\$7.7
Youth Injury	\$18.3
Poisonings and Psychoses	\$2.3
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Among Mothers 15-20	\$4.0
Youth Alcohol Treatment	\$17.0
TOTAL	\$274.2

From The Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE) 2006

How You Can Help!

YOUTH CONNECTIONS and CMCA are always looking for more community partners to help in ending underage access to alcohol. If you, your business, or civic or religious organization would like to join us, please contact
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Youth Connections
Director

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Come and join us in creating a healthy community where young people can thrive!

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YOUTH Connections

Great Kids Make Great Communities!

Communities Mobilizing for Change around Alcohol
CMCA



1025 North Rodney St.
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 (406) 324-1032

What is CMCA?

Communities Mobilizing for Change around Alcohol (CMCA) is designed to reduce youth access to alcohol by changing community knowledge, policy, and practice.



CMCA focuses on a comprehensive approach to underage alcohol use. Some of our strategies include education (media literacy), awareness activities (Parents Who Host Campaign), policy work (supporting keg registrations), and enforcement (compliance checks and party patrols).



We work in collaboration with several area agencies including Boyd Andrew Community Services, Carroll College, MT Department of Revenue, Helena School District #1, area law enforcement, the Lewis and Clark County DUI Taskforce, the National Guard, Safe Kids/Safe Communities of St. Peter's Hospital, parents, and students.



Here's What We Know

Underage alcohol use in Montana is extensive and daunting. Alcohol is a leading cause of death and contributes substantially to adolescent motor vehicle crashes and other traumatic injuries.

Teens are drunk at school. Over 20% of Montana teens reported being drunk at school at least once in the previous year. (Montana Prevention Needs Assessment Survey MPNA 2006).



Teens, alcohol, and driving: a deadly combination. In 2005, The Montana Highway Traffic Safety Office documented 468 underage Montana drivers involved in alcohol/drug related crashes—11 were involved in fatal alcohol/drug crashes.

Area teens binge drink more than their peers across the nation. In the 2006 MPNA, 40% of Lewis and Clark County 12th graders report binge drinking (5 or more drinks at one time) in the last two weeks prior to the survey completion.

Drinking begins early for area high school students: 45% begin before age 15 (MPNA 2006). Youths who report drinking before age 15 are more likely to develop substance abuse problems, engage in risky sexual behavior, and attempt suicide in comparison to those who begin drinking at a later age.

www.oas.samhsa.gov

Alcohol is easy for teens to get. In the 2006 MPNA, 40.7 % of area youth reported that it would be "very easy" to get alcohol. The most likely source—their parents and their homes.

