Social Host Ordinance:
A Case Study

Nicole Holt
Chief Executive Officer
Texans Standing Tall
As required by the Alcohol Policy 18 Conference, I/we have signed a disclosure statement and note the following conflict(s) of interest:

Nothing to Disclose
Our concern?
Youth Alcohol Use

• Related to:
  • Addiction
  • Unwanted and Unplanned Sexual Activity
  • Violence
  • School Drop Out
  • Truancy
  • Injury
  • Suicide
  • Loss of Future Potential
  • Loss of Quality of Life
Youth Alcohol Use

In 2016, 29% of Texas youth ages 12-18 used alcohol in the past month, with 11% binge drinking during the past 30 days.

Texas School Survey, 2016
Youth Alcohol Use

- 67% of Texas 12th graders say alcohol is somewhat or very easy to obtain.

- 17.9% of middle and high school students said they "most of the time" or "always" get alcohol from parties.
  - This is also the number one source among high school juniors (28.3%) and seniors (34.0%).

Texas School Survey, 2016
Youth Alcohol Use

Unsupervised Youth Parties are high risk settings:
- Low cost per drink
- High rate of hazardous drinking
- Violence, trauma, unplanned sexual encounters, vandalism
- Drain on law enforcement resources
Our Response
Ready the Community

- Regional Forums
- Educational Events
- Town Halls
Social host liability refers to laws that hold noncommercial individuals responsible for the underage drinking events on property they own, lease, or otherwise control.
Restrict Social Access

Social Host Ordinance

- Shift focus from underage drinker to provider
- Individual responsible for underage drinking on property they control (lease, own, etc.)
- May not have to be present to be held responsible
- Less severe penalties than criminal provisions
Social Host Intent

- Change community culture and conditions
- Change the focus from underage drinker to provider/enabler
- Decrease provision (furnishing alcohol to an underage person)
- Change context and setting (deter underage drinking parties)
Social Host Evidence

• Communities with social host ordinances have fewer large underage drinking parties
  • *Wagoner, Sparks, Francisco, Wyrick, Nichols, & Wolfson, (2013)*

• Underage drinkers in communities with strict social host ordinances were less likely to drink at parties compared to underage drinkers from communities without SHOs
  • *Paschall, Lipperman-Kreda, Grube, and Thomas, (2014)*
Restrict Social Access

Controlled Party Dispersals
  • Safely contain the party participants
  • Issue citations
  • Effectively control release to parents
Deterrence Theory

Deterrence of a behavior can be achieved when there is a perception that punishment is

- Swift
- Certain
- Severe
What Next?
Organizing Skills
Tools & Training

Midwest Academy

Policy Action Steps
## MIDWEST ACADEMY STRATEGY CHART

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Organizational Considerations</th>
<th>Constituents, Allies/Opponents</th>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Tactics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. List the long-term objectives of your campaign.</td>
<td>1. List the resources that your organization brings to the campaign.</td>
<td>1. Who cares about the issues enough to join in or help the organization?</td>
<td>1. Primary targets</td>
<td>1. For each target, list the tactics that each constituent group can best use to make its power felt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. State the intermediate goals for the issue campaign.</td>
<td>Include: money, number of staff, facilities, reputation, etc.</td>
<td>Whose problem is it?</td>
<td>Who has the power to give you what you want?</td>
<td>Tactics must be:</td>
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<td>What constitutes a victory? How long will the campaign:</td>
<td>- What is the budget, including in-kind contributions, for this campaign?</td>
<td>What do they gain if they win?</td>
<td>What power do you have over them?</td>
<td>- In context.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Win concrete improvements in people’s lives?</td>
<td>2. List the specific ways in which you want your organization to be strengthened by this campaign.</td>
<td>What risks are they taking?</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Flexible and creative.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Give people a sense of their own power?</td>
<td>Fill in the numbers for each:</td>
<td>What power do they have over the target?</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Directed at a specific target.</td>
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<td>Alter the relations of power?</td>
<td>- Expand leadership groups.</td>
<td>Into what group are they organized?</td>
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<td>- Make sense to the membership.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. What short-term or partial victories can you win as steps toward your long-term goal?</td>
<td>- Increase experience of existing leadership.</td>
<td>2. Who are your opponents?</td>
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<td>- Be backed up by a specific form of power.</td>
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<td>- Build a membership base.</td>
<td>- What will your victory cost them?</td>
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<td>Tactics include:</td>
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<td>- Expand into new constituencies.</td>
<td>- What will they do/spend to oppose you?</td>
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<td>- Media events.</td>
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<td>- Raise more money.</td>
<td>- How strong are they?</td>
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<td>- Actions for information and demands.</td>
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<td>- Public hearings.</td>
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<td>- Strikes.</td>
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<td>- Voter registration and voter education.</td>
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<td>- Lawsuits.</td>
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<td>- Accountability sessions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEP 1</td>
<td>STEP 2</td>
<td>STEP 3</td>
<td>STEP 4</td>
<td>STEP 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop a Policy Action Statement</td>
<td>Engage Law Enforcement</td>
<td>Compile Relevant Data</td>
<td>Make Your Case</td>
<td>Draft Policy Language</td>
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<tr>
<th>STEP 6</th>
<th>STEP 7</th>
<th>STEP 8</th>
<th>STEP 9</th>
<th>STEP 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use Media Advocacy</td>
<td>Mobilize Support and Educate the Community</td>
<td>Get the Policy Adopted</td>
<td>Ensure Enforcement of Policy</td>
<td>Evaluate Effectiveness</td>
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</table>
Policy Action Steps: COSA’s Experience
How do we prove the local condition and related consequences exist which pose a problem for the community?
Data Collection Points

- Start big picture: core measures, general underage drinking data, etc. (can also contain non-party-specific qualitative data)

- Be specific: home party data – qualitative and quantitative work

- Paint a picture/tell a story: use images and words that embarrass, outrage, upset, or enlighten people about the extent of the underage drinking problem
What does success look like?
Community Readiness
The community calls on the San Antonio city council to pass a social host ordinance to restrict alcohol access to underage drinkers in order to protect the safety and health of our community.
Getting Law Enforcement Buy In
Types of Data

Three Tiers of Data

1. 5,000 ft: UAD is a problem in Antonio
2. 1,000 ft: Youth in San Antonio drinking at house parties
3. in the weeds: Consequences of youth drinking at home and result in a number...
Issue Brief

Addressing Youth Social Access to Alcohol in San Antonio

As a young community in our city, we are facing the problem of underage drinking. It only takes one person, 21 or older, to "supply" a party. Whether they know it or not, they are providing the opportunity for teenagers to intoxicates themselves and make potentially life threatening mistakes. When I was in high school, photos of my friends at parties half naked, fully intoxicated, and passed out on random beds were passed around as souvenirs from the most recent parties. (Kristen R. – 20)

Underage drinking parties often occur with limited or no supervision, involve binge drinking, and create an unsafe environment where problems beyond drinking can occur. Binge drinking can lead to high intoxication levels and alcohol poisoning when youth consume a large amount of alcohol in a short period of time. There are many other problems associated with underage drinking including but not limited to:

- Unintentional injury or death
- Overdoses, falls, or drownings
- Vehicle crashes resulting in or driving while under the influence (DUI)
- Alcohol affecting;
  - Youth and gang violence
  - Unwanted or unplanned sexual activity

Underage Drinking is a Problem in Bexar County

In our community, the average age of first alcohol use is just 11 years old. Alcohol is the harmful substance most commonly used by youth in San Antonio and statewide. This has major consequences for the young person and community. People who begin consuming alcohol before age 15 are 4.5 times more likely to suffer from negative alcohol-related problems in life than those who wait until age 21. Preventing and reducing youth access can help lesson the risk of becoming dependent on alcohol and drugs later in life. 41% of Bexar High school students report that accessing alcohol is very easy, and say the main ways they access alcohol are via friends and parties. In 2015, a survey of minors in possession (MMP) offenders in San Antonio, 75% named house parties as the place most of their peers drink illegally, and a majority expressed knowledge of drinking and driving, violence, and property damage resulting from under age drinking. However, there is a way to reduce and understand underage drinking in the community.

Research indicates that a social host ordinance is an effective way to limit social access and the size and frequency of parties where under age drinking can occur. It only takes one person, 21 or older, to "supply" a party. Whether they know it or not, they are providing the opportunity for teenagers to intoxicates themselves and make potentially life threatening mistakes. When I was in high school, photos of my friends at parties half naked, fully intoxicated, and passed out on random beds were passed around as souvenirs from the most recent parties. (Kristen R. – 20)

House Parties Have Severe and Negative Consequences

Survey respondents indicated being aware of the following negative consequences occurring at under age house parties:

- Sexual assault
- Driving after drinking
- Fights

Both groups reported direct knowledge of violence, property damage, and alcohol poisoning occurring at a scene of under age house parties.

Social Media is used to promote underage drinking parties.

In San Antonio 75% of under age drinkers believe that "friends parties" are an attractive form of parties that they will attend. In our community, young people are using social media and are often more aware of every year. But do you know that parents, in private homes or on private property are most at blame? 51% of youth interviewees mention "house parties" as one of the most popular or anywhere that their friends drink.

Issue parties have severe and negative consequences. Survey respondents reported direct knowledge of violence, property damage, and alcohol poisoning occurring at a scene of under age house parties.
2012
Social Host Accountability Policy Training—Determine Targets

LAW ENFORCEMENT
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS
PARENTS
How to reach stakeholders
Where Do Council Members Stand?
Who’s a Constituent and is Willing to Talk?

City Council List:
1. Melissa Munoz
2. Al Hartman
3. Tom Marino
4. Maricela Morales
5. Elvira Castillo
6. Tanya Jopling
7. Julie Lloyd-Atkinson
8. Sayama Turner
9. Maria Velazquez
10. Melissa Sayre
11. Miranda Tupper
12. Damika Burton
13. Andrea Salazar
14. Mary Almendarez
15. James Winston
16. Diana Rosette
17. Amy Alston
18. Robbie Smith
19. Jason Derscheid
20. Gyna Juarez
21. Trish Frye
22. Christina Guerra
23. Brian Lemons
24. Mike Davis
25. Jimmy Sides
26. Nicole Holt
27. Hermes Baxter
28. Donna Armstrong
29. Ken...
Show up in force
“I ask for our city council to join in solidarity with parental efforts to raise our children in a new social expectation of preventing under-age drinking and the effects that it influences. My efforts to promote healthy habits should not be determined by other adults who believe it’s better under their roof. I hope other parents realize they are not just handing over an alcoholic beverage. They are handing over potential alcohol dependency, drug exposure and abuse, teenage pregnancy, and school failure to name a few. I hope your efforts as our city leaders will be able to make a difference to help foster a new social norm to raise my daughter in. A city that works alongside it’s parents in raising our future generations.”

Sarah Roitz, Coalition Member & Mother
“Parents do not need to encourage bad behavior by providing alcohol to minors or a place to consume it. Underage drinking is not legal! Just like most teens, I'm on a social media too called snapchat. I see the “snaps” posted inviting people to their homes to have parties. BYOB (Bring your own booze).

It is at these parties that my peers often drink alcohol, get drunk, and do other things that put them at risk and harm for life changing events. Adults are providing the space and allowing underage drinking to happen. I am here to ask that you support the social host ordinance. Because you have a duty to protect us when there is clear evidence of harm. You see....It is not me that you have to worry about because I have a family, Hype and friends but it is my peers that do not have the same protective factors.”
“I ask for our city council to join in solidarity with parental efforts to raise our children in a new social expectation of preventing under-age drinking and the effects that it influences. My efforts to promote healthy habits should not be determined by other adults who believe it’s better under their roof. I hope other parents realize they are not just handing over an alcoholic beverage. They are handing over potential alcohol dependency, drug exposure and abuse, teenage pregnancy, and school failure to name a few.

I hope your efforts as our city leaders will be able to make a difference to help foster a new social norm to raise my daughter in. A city that works alongside it’s parents in raising our future generations.”
## 21 An Ordinance amending Chapter 21 of the City of Sa

**Vote Type:** Motion to Approve

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<td>Ivy R. Taylor</td>
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<td>Roberto C. Treviño</td>
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<td>Alan Warrick</td>
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<td>Rebecca Viagrán</td>
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<td>Shirley Gonzales</td>
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<td>Ray Lopez</td>
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**Motion:** Rey Beldaña

**Second:** Michael Gallagher
Thank your advocates
We help each other
Statewide Workgroup
Texans Standing Tall
Together creating healthier and safer communities.

TexansStandingTall.org

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