



Alcohol Use and Abuse on Guam

Know the facts

Alcohol Consumption & Effects

46% of adults on Guam are **current drinkers**. Amongst current drinkers, males were almost twice as likely to report recent consumption of alcohol as females on Guam.*

Binge drinking, defined as having five or more drinks on one occasion, was reported by **19% of adults** on Guam in 2003; adults aged 25-44 had the highest rates.*

In 2005, **1 in 3** murders reported on Guam were caused from fights influenced by alcohol.**

Between 1996 to 2005, the arrests for **drunkenness quadrupled**. **

In 2005, Guam Police Department indicated **44% of fatalities** from motor vehicle crashes were **alcohol-related**.**

There were **817 arrests for Driving Under the Influence** in 2005, a **52% increase** from 2004.**

**Source: BRFSS- 2003, ** GPD, UCR-2005*

The dangers of alcohol abuse:

Women whose partners **abused alcohol** were 3.6 times more likely than other women to be **assaulted** by their partners. (Source: NE Journal of Medicine-1999)

Chronic heavy alcohol consumption is the major factor for the development of chronic liver disease and liver cirrhosis.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is one of the leading causes of mental retardation, and is directly attributable to drinking during pregnancy.

On Guam, the **death rate from alcohol liver disease has increased** slightly, from 2.6 per 100,000 persons in 1999 to 3.1 per 100,000 persons in 2003. (Source: Guam DPHSS, OVS)

Nearly **one-half** of the **cases of child abuse and neglect** are associated with parental alcohol or drug abuse. (Source: American Journal Public Health 2000)

Adverse health effects that are associated with **alcohol-exposed pregnancies** include miscarriage, premature delivery, low birth weight, sudden infant death syndrome, and prenatal alcohol-related conditions.

Where to get help:

Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Crisis Hotline: 647-8833
Drug & Alcohol Branch
475-5438/39

Lighthouse Recovery Center
For Men
477-7671/7673
The Salvation Army

Al-Anon Family Services
For spouses of Alcoholics
864-8644
Check Observation Post in Pacific Daily News (PDN) for days, times and place for meetings

Online Resources:
DMHSA-PEACE
www.dmsa.guam.gov
www.peaceguam.org
www.healthychoicesguam.org

Sanctuary, Inc.
For Adolescents
24-hr Hotline: 475-7100
475-7101

For Military Families
Air and Family Readiness Center
366-8136
Navy Fleet Family Support Center
333-2056/57

ALA-Teen
For Teens of Alcoholics
Check Observation Post in PDN for days, times and place for meetings

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence
www.ncadd.org

Oasis Empowerment Center For Women
646-4601
Elim Pacific Ministries

Alcoholics Anonymous
For Alcoholics
Check Observation Post in PDN for days, time and place for meetings.

Al-Alcoholics Anonymous
www.aa.org

