



# A Concern for the Community ... Stop Illegal Use of Alcohol

## Underage Drinking On Guam

### Underage Drinking is against the **LAW!**

17% of middle school students reported having their first alcoholic drink before the age of 11.\*

**36%** of high school students on Guam have **ridden in a vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol.**\* Guam's rate on this behavior shows no significant decrease since 1995, surpassing rates nationwide.

**68%** of all high school students have had at least **1 alcoholic drink**; with 18.5% of these students who have engaged in **binge drinking.**\*

Binge drinking rates appear to be increasing for Chamorro and Micronesian Islander youth.

**9%** of high school students on Guam have **drove a vehicle after drinking alcohol.**\* The nationwide prevalence for this behavior appears to be declining; this trend is not evident for Guam.

*\*Source: YRBS, 2005*

### Why kids should NOT drink:

**Three teens are killed each day** as a result of drinking and driving. At least six more die every day from other alcohol-related causes.

Source: Nat'l Highway Traffic Safety Admin., *Traffic Safety Facts 2003.*

There is a growing evidence to suggest that **alcohol use prior to age 21 impairs** crucial aspects of youthful **brain development.**

**Young people** who began drinking before the age of 15 **are four times** more likely to **develop alcohol** dependence than those who wait until the age of 21.

Source: Journey of Substance Abuse 9 (1997)

It is estimated that **teenage girls** who binge drink are up to **63%** more likely to become **teen mothers.**

Source: Mil. Of Young People Mix Sex w/Alcohol or Drugs - w/dangerous consequences - Feb. 2002.

#### Where to get help:

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

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

Oasis Empowerment Center  
For Women  
646-4601  
Elim Pacific Ministries

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

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

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

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

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

Online Resources:  
DMHSA-PEACE  
www.dmhsa.guam.gov  
www.peaceguam.org  
www.healthychoiceaguam.org

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

AI-Alcoholics Anonymous  
www.aa.org

