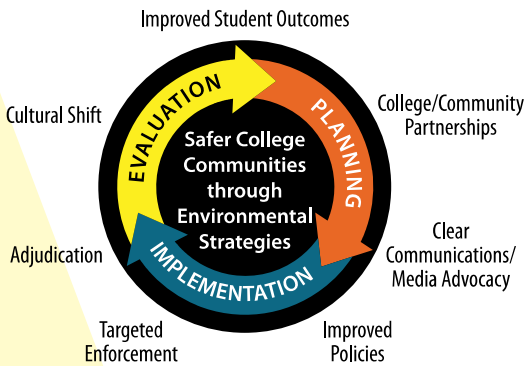




OJJDP Development Grants to Colleges Yield Improvement in Underage Drinking Enforcement

When colleges and universities work together with their surrounding communities using environmental strategies, enhanced policies and coordinated enforcement, the impact on underage drinking is impressive!

Nowhere in America are the effects of heavy episodic drinking more in evidence than at colleges and universities. Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) and preserving the lives those laws are designed to protect can be challenging in college communities. Beginning in 2008, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) funded a EUDL College Discretionary Initiative to support and focus the efforts of colleges and their surrounding communities to reduce alcohol beverage availability and consumption by underage college students. The initiative encouraged universities and colleges to seek innovative partnerships between campus and community enforcement, student groups, college administrations and departments, community and neighborhood organizations, coalitions, businesses, faith-based organizations, and others. It also encouraged them to plan and engage in evidenced-based activities to inform institutional policies and enforcement to reduce the consumption culture. These activities were to increase the safety of underage students and surrounding communities and decrease the costs and risks associated with alcohol-related behaviors. The project funded seven varied college/university communities, each of which had conducted a preliminary assessment into the nature of its challenges and was willing to use environmental strategies to improve outcomes. The college/community partnerships addressed their community issues aided by intensive technical assistance and training in strategic planning and law enforcement from the Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center (UDETC) at PIRE. The dedicated efforts of these campuses and communities to support and enforce underage drinking laws yielded impressive results.




UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA/CHAMPAIGN community partnerships increased the buy-in from campus officials to support enforcement and implemented alcohol policies to deter underage drinking. The advent of multijurisdictional enforcement operations and event management training yielded campus and community collaborations for strict alcohol control policies; high-visibility enforcement; volunteer assistance; and informational campaigns about alcohol policies, laws, and consequences to reduce underage drinking incidences during a regularly recurring, but unsanctioned, ‘Unofficial’ St. Patrick’s Day event. Cyber intelligence using social media was a deterrent for underage drinking, and strategies implemented improved student and public health and safety.


THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON created “alcohol-free zones” and implemented alcohol control policies and enforcement during their annual “Cougarpalooza” event. Increased enforcement resulted in student perceptions that underage drinkers and their adult alcohol providers would “get in trouble.” This enforcement activity yielded a decrease in alcohol use according to student surveys. There was also a decrease in the number of students who felt that the campus social atmosphere contributed to drinking. Consequently, 2011 resulted in zero alcohol-related incidences during the ‘Cougarpalooza’ event. In addition, fake ID training with local retailers plus signage about the checking of IDs helped reduce the use of fake IDs.


CLEMSON UNIVERSITY paired alcohol awareness messaging with increased enforcement and focused on working with the off-campus housing community around landlord and renter accountability to reduce off-campus “party” incidences. Increased enforcement of alcohol laws and policies on campus improved student accountability, resulting in a decrease in freshman referrals to the Office of Community and Ethical Standards for campus adjudication.

FURMAN UNIVERSITY developed strict sanctions to accompany a new campus alcohol policy and reached out to both students and parents about the changes. Late-night alcohol-free events every Friday and Saturday were instituted by Students Affairs and Campus groups. Increased enforcement of on- and off-campus parties with stiff fines for those who provide alcohol to minors made “of age” hosts realize it “just wasn’t worth it” to host such an event. Changes to Resident Advisor (RA) Standard Operating Procedures for policy enforcement and a consistent point of contact for compliance issues were created through the Student Affairs Office. The use of ipads, breathalyzers, and cameras proved to be an asset to the investigation and judicial processes.

 **POLICY RESULTS:** Emergency orders instituted by the city Mayor to control alcohol sales and service; campus policies invoked to limit dorm entry by nonstudents and ban on classroom disruptions; and Standard Operating Procedures by law enforcement improved to more effectively manage the unsanctioned event and hold violators responsible for their actions.

 **POLICY RESULTS:** Campus ban on alcohol energy drinks and change in enforcement Standard Operating Procedures to institute a campus Alcohol Enforcement Team.

 **POLICY RESULTS:** Development of tougher language in rental clauses to address underage drinking and provision of alcohol to minors and an orientation guide for alcohol prevention.

 **POLICY RESULTS:** Amended the campus alcohol policy to prohibit alcohol in the residence halls where underage students reside; banned alcohol parties, drinking games, large quantities of alcohol, and use of alcohol by minors; and increased enforcement and strict sanctions for alcohol violations. The addition of birthdates on all Furman IDs, and Standard Operating Procedures for RA rounds enhanced policy enforcement.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA (USC) faced challenges with 70 percent of students living off campus, and achieved measurable outcomes with the implementation of controlled party dispersal operations in off-campus housing. Uniform “student conduct tickets” were instituted by law enforcement agencies, resulting in consistent adjudication of alcohol-related violations by the Student Conduct Office. Campus alcohol advertisement was banned.



POLICY RESULTS: Campus policy change to ban alcohol advertisements in all college media and external media about college events and implementation of uniform student conduct tickets used by all law enforcement agencies.

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO (UNR) toughened alcohol policies and increased enforcement around college athletic events, which yielded reduced alcohol-related incidents and improved spectator experiences. They also improved their campus alcohol policies and adjudication processes to have uniform sanctions applied, resulting in reduced recidivism and a significant increase in student retention during the grant period.



POLICY RESULTS: Revision of the student code of conduct policy to include alcohol-related offenses on and off campus; and toughened campus policies around drinking near and in the stadium.

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY partnerships raised awareness of the drinking problem, educating decision makers who passed an ordinance to limit under age 21 access to alcohol at restaurants with liquor licenses. The grant effort provided free training in English and Spanish for bar owners, followed by regular compliance checks by enforcement. Strict controls were placed on venues serving alcohol during athletic events, and high-visibility enforcement was implemented. Increased enforcement during the first 6 weeks of the school year established campus and community norms for legal community environments. Law enforcement increased alcohol citations in the first year, and had a 40% decrease in underage drinking citations in year two, indicating bars and students had responded to the interventions.



POLICY RESULTS: Passage of an ordinance requires restaurants with liquor licenses to operate as restaurants the entire time they are open, reduces late bar hours, and requires a two ID checking process. Standard Operating Procedures were revised for referrals from the Charleston Police Department to the Office of Student Standards for off-campus violations.

Collectively, these colleges and universities found that expanding partnerships, refining and advertising campus alcohol policies, and visibly enforcing the minimum legal drinking age laws had a positive effect on campus culture, student outcomes, and community environments. To learn more about their achievements, visit the UDETC Web site at www.udetc.org to view Success Stories and the updated “Environmental Strategies to Prevent Alcohol Problems on College Campuses” publication for information about science-based practices in college communities.

Enforcement of Policies: Partnerships between college and local police are a winning strategy.

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES	OUTCOMES
Regular Compliance Checks of bars and retail sellers	Improved retailer compliance of the minimum legal drinking age laws between 5 and 20 percent. — All sites.
Increased alcohol enforcement during game day	Clemson students reporting that they abide with university alcohol and drug policies positively increased from 56 to 68 percent. Clemson University, UNR, and USC notice improvements in alcohol law/policy compliance. UNR reported a 4.2 percent decrease in self-reported binge drinking, a 7 percent decrease in self-reported student driving under the influence (DUI), and a 65 percent reduction in the number of students evicted from athletic events (UNR PD, 2010).
Increased party patrols and enhanced enforcement early in the year to enforce campus alcohol policies	College of Charleston found 50 percent of students surveyed stated the reason for choosing NOT to drink on a particular occasion was because they were “worried about getting caught by authorities” (Alcohol EDU survey, 2011). Furman University reduced calls to service for law enforcement to respond to problem locations off-campus and issued fewer alcohol-related citations. Eastern Illinois University showed a 50 percent decrease in underage drinking citations off-campus in year 2 of the grant; and a 70 percent decrease in on-campus citations over 3 years.
Increased highway safety checkpoints	Clemson University experienced an increase in the number of DUI cases processed by enforcement and a reduction in self-reports of drinking and driving, from 32 percent in 2009 to 22 percent in 2011 (Core Surveys, 2009-2011).
Increased enforcement checking IDs at retail establishments	Clemson University reported that consistent fake ID enforcement resulted in a 36 percent reduction in the number of citations issued to violators at bars in 2 years. College of Charleston reported a 20 to 25 percent reduction in fraudulent identifications collected by bar personnel that were given to law enforcement.
Increased special event and designated area enforcement, such as alcohol-free zone	College of Charleston reported that large event enforcement resulted in zero alcohol-related issues in 2011 during “Cougarpalooza”— a significant improvement from the previous years. University of Illinois implemented high-visibility enforcement during a large-scale event, Unofficial St. Patrick’s Day (USPD), resulting in increased citations/arrests from 269 in 2009 to 364 in 2011.
Adjudication	Clemson University reduced the number of freshmen adjudication cases that involved an alcohol-related arrest (82 cases in year 2 versus 53 cases in year 3). Eastern Illinois University reduced recidivism rates of student alcohol-related offenses by 16 percent (in the first 6 weeks of the school year, 2011). UNR reduced recidivism rates from 12 to 7 percent for alcohol-related violations adjudicated by the courts and coordinated with university action, and improved student retention from 74 to 84 percent, when court and campus actions were synchronized rather than action taken by only one entity.