

Beer's Fair \$hare 2009

FROM THE DESK OF REPRESENTATIVE CHIP SHIELDS

Partners

Governor's Council
on Alcohol and Drugs

OLCC - Oregon Liquor
Control Commission

Ecumenical Ministries
of Oregon

OPERA - Oregon
Prevention Education
Recovery Association

Oregon Partnership

Oregon Nurses
Association

ACCBO - Addiction
Counselor Certification
Board of Oregon

AOC - Association
of Oregon Counties

AFSCME - American
Federation of State,
County and Municipal
Employees

AOCMHP - Association
of Oregon Community
Mental Health Programs

CARSA - Community
Action to Reduce
Substance Abuse

Citizens Crime
Commission

American Association
of University Women
of Oregon

Umpqua Partners For
a Drug-Free Future

Prevention: We Need It. It Works. It Pays.

A sure way to avoid alcohol and drug addiction is to prevent that very first use.

There is no mystery as to why a child decides to take the first drink, the first hit. It's the attitudes of the people around him, how risky he thinks it is, and how easy the substance is to get. Prevention targets those three things, and the evidence shows it works.

How it works.

- ✓ Prevention education campaigns and community coalitions create consensus and social pressure that drugs and underage drinking are unacceptable.
- ✓ Evidence-based programs offered in K-12 schools teach about the risks of alcohol and drug use, resulting in a greater perception of harm and lower use rates.
- ✓ Law enforcement on the street and in retail stores ensures that the availability of drugs and alcohol is as low as possible.

We need it.

Costs of Underage Drinking by Problem, Oregon 2005

Problem	Total Costs (in millions)
Youth Violence	\$323.0
Youth Traffic Crashes	\$135.7
High-Risk Sex, Ages 14-20	\$63.1
Youth Property Crime	\$51.0
Youth Injury	\$28.1
Poisonings and Psychoses	\$6.3
FAS Among Mothers Age 15-20	\$12.4
Youth Alcohol Treatment	\$104.7
Total	\$724.2

One-third of Oregon eighth graders and almost half of 11th graders drink. Young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence and are two and a half times more likely to become abusers of alcohol than those who start drinking at age 21.

(Source: Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE), October 2006.)

It works. It pays.



Savings includes reduced crime and associated costs to victims, law enforcement and criminal justice, reduced teen pregnancy and use of public assistance, and avoided costs for addictions treatment and medical care. We need it.

(Source: Oregon Speaks, 2008, page 10.)

Learn more at: orpartnership.org/web/beersfairshare.asp