FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Social Host Reminder-Don't Give People Under 21 a Place to Drink

Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) would like to inform and remind community members about "Cody's Law," also known as the Statewide Social Host Law. Social Host provides stronger penalties for individuals who knowingly allow underage drinking in their homes or on their property. With the statewide social host law, all youth across the state of Oklahoma are better protected against the dangers of underage drinking.

The social host law provides a misdemeanor and fine of up to \$500 for the first violation and a fine of up to \$1,000 for a second. Further violations can result in up to five years in prison and a fine of \$2,500. If a violation of Cody's Law results in bodily injury or death, a social host will face a fine of between \$2,500 and \$5,000 and up to five years of incarceration.

Statistics from the 2016 Oklahoma Prevention Needs Assessment show that friends and family remain the primary source of alcohol for underage drinking. According to the Grady County Sheriff's Office and Chickasha Police Department, there were 2 Social Host violation arrests from 2016-2017 in Grady County. Red Rock RPC urges parents and family members to be a part of their prevention efforts by not providing alcohol to the youth in their community.

Red Rock RPC takes a proactive approach in reducing substance abuse among communities, specifically underage drinking and the non-medical use of prescription drugs. They identify factors in a community that cause the risk of substance abuse and work to promote protective factors that serve to minimize the risk of substance abuse.

For more information on the Social Host Law or the RPC please contact Red Rock RPC at 405-250-9696, or visit the RPC website at www.redrockrpc.com. Red Rock RPC is funded through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS).



Don't give people under 21 a place to drink.