

MEDIA CONTACT

Sarah Keeth

Regional Prevention Coordinator

Skeeth@red-rock.com

405-761-1146

National Drug & Alcohol Awareness Week

January 7, 2019 – For as long as alcohol has been around, the negative impact it's having on our youth and community as a whole is still shockingly dangerous. Over 90 % of community members believe that people who have a party where they knowingly allow underage individuals to drink will NOT get caught by law enforcement (Grady County community survey data). However, Over 85 percent of the population believes that if someone has a party where they knowingly allow people under age 21 to drink alcohol that they SHOULD face consequences. This data falls into the Social Host Law and community awareness of the issue and law.

Underage drinking and understanding where and how the youth are getting alcohol in the community is only one of the negative and challenging components of alcohol but is one of the main components of the Alcohol Enforcement Plan that Red Rock RPC (Regional Prevention Coordinators) works on. Another big concern with alcohol in the community is drinking and driving. Red Rock RPC team works closely with law enforcement and regularly participates in compliance checks and observing data on over serving, public intoxication, and the last place of drink before a DUI. Once this data is observed first hand, Red Rock RPC takes action to educate the businesses on how they can prevent alcohol-related in the future and offers free training for all employees.

Over eighty percent of individuals reported to knowingly driving with someone who consumed more than two drinks an hour before driving. On top of this less than 5 % of people believe that people who drive while under the influence will get caught. These numbers are frightening because not only does this action affect the intoxicated driver and passenger, but it can potentially effect anyone else on the road on their commute.

National Drug and Alcohol Awareness week is important and the perfect time to talk about these issues in the community with your loved ones. Red Rock RPC encourages you to get familiar with the new alcohol laws and the laws associated with being a social host. Red Rock RPC also urges you to put safety first and help inform youth about the dangers associated with drugs and alcohol.

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