



HAWAII

Kauai Liquor Commission Drunk Busters

► AT-A-GLANCE

► Project Characteristics

Education
Countermeasures

► Program Areas

Alcohol and Other Drugs
Youth Programs

► Targeted Populations

Middle and High School
Students

► Type of Jurisdiction

County

► Jurisdiction Size

59,946 (as of 7/1/02)

► Funding

402 Funds: \$2,336

► Contact

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Problem Identification

The Department of Health's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division conducted the 2000 Hawaii Student Alcohol and Other Drug Survey and discovered that Hawaii's youth have a drinking problem. Over 20 percent of Hawaii's 6th graders, almost 50 percent of 8th graders, over 60 percent of 10th graders, and over 70 percent of 12th graders have all used alcohol.

Easy access is probably the biggest cause of the problem. Alcohol is available everywhere and many adults condone its use. Retail access does not appear to be the primary source. March 2004 retail compliance checks indicate only eight percent non-compliance. Adults purchasing alcohol for minors, which is referred to as 'shoulder tap', appears to be the biggest problem. Recent enforcement efforts netted quite a few arrests involving adults purchasing alcohol for minors. Enforcement is hindered because Hawaii does not have a Possession by Consumption law. Minors as well as some adults are not aware of the criminal penalties for underage drinking and purchasing alcohol for minors.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of the *Kauai Liquor Commission Drunk Busters* project is to decrease minors' access to alcohol and reduce youth injuries and fatalities. The project's objectives are to:

- Educate middle and high school students about the hazards and criminal penalties associated with underage drinking; and
- Increase enforcement efforts and monitor the results of those efforts associated with underage drinking.

Strategies and Activities

The *Kauai Liquor Commission Drunk Busters* project implemented the following strategies and related activities to achieve its goals:

- Purchased twelve Drunk Busters Impairment goggles and twelve Twilight Vision goggles to use for their school presentations. The impairment goggles simulate the effects of intoxication and the twilight goggles simulate intoxication during night time conditions. Both goggles simulate .08 - .15 Blood Alcohol Count (BAC).
- Conducted presentations to students in 7th to 12th grade classrooms at each public school on Kauai. The presentations included:
 - An 18 minute video entitled, "DUI: Dead in 5 Seconds;"



- A PowerPoint presentation and lecture by field personnel on how liquor laws apply to minors and the consequences of getting caught;
- Interaction between the students and the presenter; and
- An opportunity for students to experience intoxication using simulation equipment called Drunk Busters impairment goggles. The effects of impairment include reduced alertness, slowed reaction time, confusion, visual distortion, alteration of depth and distance perception, reduction of peripheral vision, poor judgment and decision making, double vision, and lack of muscular coordination.
- Asked students to execute portions of a field sobriety test as well as pick up a key and open a lock while wearing the impairment goggles to allow students to experience alcohol's effect on an individual.

Results

The *Kauai Liquor Commission Drunk Busters* project achieved the following results since it was first introduced two years ago:

- Conducted 120 presentations for 2,676 students. The presentation is making minors as well as adults in attendance more aware of the criminal and civil liabilities connected with alcohol use and abuse.
- Conducted monthly evaluations and quarterly reports on the following:
 - Number of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrests versus underage DUI arrests
 - Number of citations issued for prohibition involving minors (Unfortunately, none of the local law enforcement agencies maintain statistics for prohibition as a separate item.)
- Achieved the following results from August 2000 to July 2003:
 - 846 DUI arrests in Kauai County (123 underage drivers)
 - 984 DUI arrests as of February 2004 (141 underage drivers)
 - .2 percent decrease in underage DUIs

This project will be completed on September 30, 2004.