

Capstone Community Project: Impact of Drunk Driving

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Introduction

The project assumes the topic of 'Impact of drunk driving' to address the causes as well as the ramifications of young people driving under the influence of alcohol. Most people in the United States consider alcohol to be the best beverage during functions and celebration. Some take alcohol as a stress reliever or just due to peer influence and lack of knowledge in what they are indulging into.

The purpose of the project is, therefore, to educate adolescents about the dangers of drinking and driving. Ultimately, the participation of the adolescents, who are the target of the project, will allow them to get insights into the goals of the project. The modes of participation will include listing examples of means to avoid driving while drunk, in addition to providing illustrations of the influence of peers in addition to activities that improve family bonding. The participants will also indicate the benefits of sobriety.

Monitoring

As indicated in the introduction, the goal of the group project is to shed light on the negative implications of driving under the influence of alcohol. The group members in the project will play different roles towards the successful completion of the project. The first group will be in charge of the information leaflets as well as the edutainment part of the project. The group will thus prepare and distribute the learning material on the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol. A separate category of group members will facilitate the project by presenting the discussion in addition to overseeing the question and answer sessions among the participants. The group will have the responsibility of preparing the presentation slides with adequate and relevant information on drunk driving. A different category of group members will cater for the logistics of the projects in addition to tracking the attendance as well as the impact of the project for recording once the projects culminate.

According to a statistical report by the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, the United States of America is leading in numbers when it comes to the consumption of alcohol beverages. This statistic was based on age; it was discovered that the pattern of drinking by the American was not as frequent and that those who allegedly took alcohol occasionally (Pacific Institute, 2002). Alcohol usage not being considered as harmful, it has caused a worldwide death toll, and in most case, the deaths' are of young people.

Thus, by the goal of the project, alcohol consumption poses a health risk to the community members who take part in the project. The project will thus analyze various means of promoting community health through the prevention of alcohol consumption and the related drunk driving that poses a risk not only to the alcohol consumers but also to the innocent members of the public who are victim to the car accidents that result from drunk driving. Many of the affected victims are either secondary victims or those who try the substance for the first time. The secondary victims include victims of car accidents caused by drunkards.

Some measures to prevent drunk driving that will form part of the education material in the project include the policies that might help bring down the rate of consumption of alcohol in America. Some of the strategies put in place by the American government include the proposition to increase in alcohol price which according to studies show that an increase in the price of alcoholic beverage would have a huge effect on the rate of consumers and as well will greatly affect the consumption rate of the underage (Pacific Institute, 2002). The only fall back on this strategy is that it would affect those who take alcohol responsibly.

Additional measures include prohibiting outlets of alcohol, and restricting age limits while enforcing minimum purchase age law. Proposals also include the limitation of social interaction, many of the young alcoholics get their alcohol from non-commercial places which may be foes, relatives, and irresponsible adults. Regulation regarding alcohol

advertisement and promotion and the effects of alcoholic adverts towards adults is limited compared to what effect the same adverts have on youths.

Resources and Opportunities

The project will require the utility of resources as well as opportunities that will aid in passing the message of sobriety to the youthful participants. Some of the teaching resources that will facilitate the discussions include videos, pamphlets, fliers that the project members will distribute in the community, in addition to computer, notebooks, pen, and papers that will facilitate the creations of the educational material for the project. Additional material from the initiate of the group members will include keychains and stickers with the message 'don't drink and drive.'

The opportunities that will contribute to the project include the background of the young people who live in a society that has rampant drinking and alcoholism. Reports indicate that alcoholic beverages are among the most consumed beverages worldwide, the consumption rate of alcohol is alarming regarding the number of youths who indulge in it at a very young age, and most people do not notice the dangers that come together with the consumption of alcohol. The project can thus utilize the background and interaction of the participants with alcoholism to complement the discussion process (Pacific Institute, 2002).

Barriers

Specific barriers to the project include the absence of parents in the meeting who are important partners in the project. Additionally, the absence of after-school programs that complement the project will be an issue in addition to peer pressure and lack of education.

Since the perception put forward by the society not insisting on the effects of abusing alcohol and the consequences that come with indulgence. The wine and spirit companies have over the years, been able to bring every person to their knee when it comes to consuming alcohol, in turn, the rate of deaths increase proportionally to the rate of increase regarding alcohol

market and brewing. The project will thus have to contend with the limitations that are presented by the alcohol producers who ultimately view the message of sobriety as a danger to their business.

Stakeholders

The project will partner with different individuals who have a stake in the message on alcoholism as well as its impact on the community members. The range of stakeholders in the project includes medical practitioners who provide insights on the health implication of alcohol intake, and the law enforcement personnel whose contribution include the dangers of drunk driving as well as the reckless behavior and disorderly conduct that results from alcoholism. The school administration and the parents will also be crucial partners to the project since the targeted audience including the adolescents who are in the care of their parents and the educational facilities.

Assessment

Alcohol not only causes diseases such as liver cirrhosis, pancreatic disorder but it as well plays a major role in violence, and the impact of its negativity moves like the wind throughout a state or a community. Moreover, the negative impact of alcohol usage spreading within a community or state leads to massive destruction of moral behavior amongst youths and even adults. In most youths who decide to indulge in alcohol usage, some drop out of school since they are not in any position to handle alcohol and do their studies. This as well fuels criminal activities by these young people to earn money to purchase more alcohol.

Furthermore, the dwindling morals do not only occur in the young consumers, but this also affects the adults. Moreover, poor living standards are not the least of concern when it comes to alcohol-related problems, most deaths in the United States are not just caused by consuming alcohol, but the consequence became even high since almost half of the deaths are caused by reckless drivers who are drunk in such moments.

According to the windshield survey, 20 percent of the population that I 16 years and older drink and drive. Further, more than 40 percent of children who debut into drinking at the age of 13 have a lifelong problem of alcohol abuse later in life. Ultimately, the age group in the assessment towards the goals of the project include adolescents who are between the ages of 12 and 18 years. The socio-economic group in the consideration is the middle to high-income families in addition to working parents while the project also targets all the genders.

When it comes to consumption of alcohol by the underage individual in America, according to the study the rate of alcohol consumed by the youth is of no comparison to the rate of adult consumption. Furthermore, according to the research, the number of youths who give up alcohol consumption in comparison to adults is promising (Pacific Institute, 2002). The only vast difference is that youths who drink heavily consume more alcohol than that taken by adults.

In the United State, policies have been set aside by most of the consumer addressing that the amount of alcohol consumed by the adults is of moderate quantity. Such policies are at the end exploited by the youths who end up acquiring the same alcohol at lower prices since such policies make the alcohol available at low price. Following such policies which undermine the efforts of controlling alcohol-related problems, a lot of impacts is caused to the society as a result.

Planning

Healthy People 2020 Overview

Reports indicate that up to 22 million Americans struggle with alcoholism and drug addiction. Additionally, 95 percent of the victims are unaware of their situation of addiction (Pacific Institute, 2002). Therefore, the goal of the group project is to align with the Healthy people 2020 review and educate the youth at a church on the implications of drinking and driving, to prevent MVA while promoting safety and protection from underage drinking. On

the other hand, the SMART objective of the project is to reduce by 50 percent, the number of adolescents between 12 and 16 years who use alcohol and illicit drugs in 30 days.

Teaching Strategies

The implementation plan will include the method of interviewing the adolescents to determine the proportion of young people in the community drunk and drove after school. Thus, the process in the project will start with a two-minute introduction of the topic once the participants settle down. The segment that follows will include a 3-minute video under the title 'do not drink and drive.' The segment will be followed by a distribution of key chains for approximately two minutes with a latter 20-minute presentation by the team members. The closure of the project will include a 10-minute open discussion with a final evaluation of the project outcomes. The process of evaluation will include a satisfactory survey, in addition, to follow up to assess the areas of improvement that include self-esteem, peer pressure, family support in addition to outdoor activities for the participants.

Implementation

Project Logistics

The project will educate the youth at a church on the implications of drinking and driving, to prevent MVA while promoting safety and protection from underage drinking. The project will take place after school.

Participants

The project targets adolescents in high school who are between the age of 12 and 16 years. The said individuals will be the participants in the project in addition to their parents and teachers.

Interactions

The primary interactions with the project team include health sectors which will provide the public health fund through health care clinics, fairs as well as volunteer

processes. Additional interactions include the local businesses, churches and individual donors whose stake in the project includes the overall safety of the community.

Outcomes

The SMART objective of the project is to reduce by 50 percent, the number of adolescents between 12 and 16 years who use alcohol and illicit drugs in 30 days. Therefore, the outcome of implementation will include an analysis of the drug and alcohol use among the participants after a 30 day period.

Tracking

The goal of the project is to educate the youth at a church on the implications of drinking and driving, to prevent MVA while promoting safety and protection from underage drinking. The monitoring process with thus constituting the process of evaluation which will include a satisfactory survey, in addition, to follow up to assess the areas of improvement that include self-esteem, peer pressure, family support in addition to outdoor activities for the participants.

The learning objectives in the project include dissemination on information concerning sobriety as well as its benefits to the individual and the community. Additional objectives include an assessment of the need to indulge in alcoholism and drug abuse, from which the project will develop the strategies to prevent underage drinking.

Tracking Data

The project will utilize the after-school programs in the school to analyze the impact of the project as well as to plan regular intervention so that the message remains with the participants. Additionally, the project will encourage the participating school to set up intervention protocols as well as assistance to the adolescents who have a problem with alcoholism and drug abuse.

Areas for Improvement

The areas of improvement for the project include an analysis of the barriers that prevented effective implementation. The process includes encouraging the participation of parents in interventions, in addition to schools set up a help center for learners with alcohol and drug problem.

Conclusion

Though the MAPPIT framework, the project will initiate the plan to mobilize, assess, plan, implement and track the public health intervention protocol of minimizing underage drinking basing on the foundation of healthy people 2020. Although most of the American citizens are likely to abstain from alcohol abuse or their drinking is not so frequent, alcohol is still dangerous beverage, and the government and school administrations should bring in additional policies that are well oriented and effective to control alcohol-related problems. Alcohol should as well not be viewed as a recreational beverage and taken for granted. Alcohol claims lives and the United States government should work harder to uproot the vice of alcohol abuse in America.

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