

Underage Drinking Prevention National Media Campaign

Proclamation template

*[****Please note****: The formatting, style, and language this template provides is a guide. Typically, you must follow a standard format requirement for your proclamation to be considered in your local community. Be sure to research those requirements before submitting your proclamation request. Use this template to easily prepare that document by cutting and pasting relevant content.]*

Office of **[Department]**

For Immediate Release

**[Date]**

**[Town/City/County]**

Contact: **[Insert contact name, phone number, and e-mail]**

By **[Name and Title of Official]**

A Proclamation: National Underage Drinking Prevention Day, [MONTH DAY], 2015

Underage drinking is a national public health issue with serious implications. Although we have done much work and made progress here in **[town, city, county]** to address this pervasive problem, there is still much more we can do. According to a study by the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 10 million people younger than the age of 21 drank alcohol in the past month in the United States. However, many young people start drinking before the age of 15. The Monitoring the Future Survey found that 33 percent of 8th graders and 70 percent of 12th graders in the United States

had tried alcohol at some time in their lives. The survey also found that 13 percent of 8th graders and 27 percent of 10th graders said that they had consumed alcohol in the 30-day period before the survey.

**WHEREAS**, “Talk. They Hear You.” is sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in collaboration with partners nationwide and our own

**[town, city, county]** to educate parents and caregivers about the consequences of underage drinking; empower them with the knowledge and tools to begin talking about underage drinking prevention at home; and mobilize families throughout the United States to engage in underage drinking prevention initiatives at the local, state, and national levels; and

**WHEREAS**, underage drinking has severe consequences, many of which parents and caregivers may not be fully aware. Consequences of underage drinking may include injury or death from accidents; unintended, unwanted, and unprotected sexual activity; academic problems; and drug use; and

**WHEREAS**, parents and caregivers have a significant influence on young people’s decisions about alcohol consumption, especially when they create supportive and nurturing alcohol-free environments; and

**WHEREAS**, youth who start drinking before the age of 15 are five times more likely to develop alcohol dependence or abuse later in life than those who begin drinking at or after age 21; and

**WHEREAS**, alcohol use by young people is dangerous, not only because of the risks associated with acute impairment, but also because of the grave threat to their long-term development and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, parents, educators, and community leaders who work with our young people every day are our best advocates for responsible decision-making; and

**WHEREAS**, adults who provide alcohol to those younger than the legal drinking age are placing those young persons at risk for health, safety, and legal problems;

**THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** that, I **[Name of Official]**, **[title],** of [**town, city, county]** of **[town/city/county name]**, do hereby proclaim **[date or month]** as “Underage Drinking Prevention Day” in the **[town, city, county]** of **[town/city/county**

**name]**. Furthermore, I call on citizens and especially parents and caregivers of **[town/city/county name]** to observe this day with participation in underage drinking prevention activities planned here. I urge all community members to make informed decisions and respond appropriately to prevent underage drinking.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the **[town, city, county**] of **[town/city/county name]** at the Office of the **[title]** this **[date]** day of **[month]** 2015.

**[Name of Official]**