



Dear Prevention Partner,

Alcohol use threatens the safe and healthy development of more young people than any other substance—even more than tobacco and illicit drugs! It’s time to make underage drinking prevention a priority! Help change attitudes about underage drinking in your community by participating in the **2008 Town Hall Meetings** during the week of March 31–April 4, which coincides with April’s Alcohol Awareness Month. By participating in this national series and hosting a local meeting, you can increase community awareness of underage drinking and its consequences. You can help make a difference at the national and local level. You can support the implementation of prevention strategies that have been proven to be effective in stopping adolescent alcohol use.

The enclosed *Community Briefing Prevention Toolkit: Town Hall Meetings* and accompanying resource materials will assist you in planning and conducting your community’s Town Hall Meeting. It contains facts about the problem of underage drinking, tips on facilitating a meeting, a ready-to-go slide presentation, and sample materials for gaining media coverage, including TV, radio, and print announcements.

The toolkit showcases compelling quotations from *The Surgeon General’s Call to Action To Prevent and Reduce Underage Drinking*—a seminal document that can greatly enhance your organization’s continuing efforts to address underage alcohol use. A copy of this important document is included here along with two other related resources for your use: *The Surgeon General’s Call to Action To Prevent and Reduce Underage Drinking: What It Means to You—A Guide to Action for Communities* and *The Surgeon General’s Call to Action To Prevent and Reduce Underage Drinking: What It Means to You—A Guide to Action for Families*. These and many other resources are available at www.stopalcoholabuse.gov.

If you have questions, concerns, or problems, please e-mail us at info@stopalcoholabuse.net. We appreciate your participation in the **2008 Town Hall Meetings**. As *The Surgeon General’s Call to Action* emphasizes, “The effects of underage drinking can be felt by everyone. That makes underage alcohol use everyone’s problem.”

Thank you.

