

## Mission Statement

The mission of Mothers Against Drunk Driving is to stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking.

## Overview

MADD offers young people an excellent way to get the leadership experience colleges look for on applications, scholarship programs seek in candidates, and intern programs desire in future employees.

MADD is about making a difference in the lives of young people. Based on the latest mortality data available (1998), motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for people from 15 to 20 years old. (NHTSA, 2000) Getting involved in one the many programs MADD has to offer will give you the opportunity to save lives in your school, in your community, and in your country. You will learn the values of teamwork by joining with other leaders and taking the message out into the community through various programs and activities.

Facts about your state, local and national governments and the roles each play in regulating alcohol consumption will also become clear. As will an understanding of the process which surrounds bills in the House and Senate and how you can make a difference in whether those bills pass or fail.

The purpose of this pamphlet is to introduce you to some of the youth programs available in your area. Each program offers you a different opportunity to gain valuable leadership experience, make a difference in your community, and learn about an issue that takes the lives of people just like you every day.



Youth In Action is a community-based program that selects teams of high school students who work with MADD chapters and other community groups in a unique partnership to address drunk driving and underage drinking.

Each team is establishing unique action plans tailored to their community's needs as well as working on projects to reduce the social and retail availability of alcohol to minors. They are also monitoring sales to minors and working to strengthen enforcement of laws prohibiting sales to minors.

These teams of young people are working to change the social climate that suggests that underage drinking is okay for those under the 21 minimum drinking age.

Concentrating their efforts to add or change laws, strengthen enforcement, and use the media as a tool for social change, Youth In Action teams are working to change the environment that accepts underage drinking as a rite of passage.



## Fake ID Multimedia Show

This dynamic 38-minute program is available for use in junior and high schools. Fake ID shows young people they have the opportunity to establish a real identity in life by making good decisions. It focuses on the strength it takes to stand up to pressure; the fortitude involved in being yourself, despite what others say or think. It reminds students that we can measure our success through the difficult journey we take to become "the real us," the person we have become, on our own terms.

Being a teen is about deciding who you are or how you define yourself. When you are alone, are you the same person that your friends see? Do you make good choices? Do you please your parents? Do you feel good about yourself? If you could change yourself, who would you be?

There is often pressure to use alcohol and other drugs to boost courage, fit in because it seems everyone is drinking, or just relieve boredom. When who we are just doesn't seem good enough, there is a temptation to get acceptance through alcohol use. "Join the crowd," "everyone does it," and "what's the big deal" are familiar but unfair. Not only is this a dangerous line of thinking, it negates the importance of being an individual. Often what the "in-crowd" doesn't tell you is what can lie in the aftermath of underage drinking.



The great thing about having street smarts is that we all have the power to choose! We can actually help decide how we will turn out. Making these kinds of decisions means we all need to make smart decisions – on the street, in our home, or at a friend's house. STREET SMARTS is a 26-minute assembly show that teaches students that being smart means doing what is best for you, your body and your brain. Does it mean they'll have some tough decisions? Yep. Does it mean they'll need to practice saying "no" to people who want them to do things that won't be good for them? You bet. But the good thing about "street smarts" is that once your you have them, they're yours for good!

The STREET SMARTS assembly show gives elementary students the latest information on how their brains develop as well as how alcohol affects the developing brain. Students are encouraged to make safe and healthy choices to protect their brains and their bodies; and to practice abstinence with alcohol until age 21.