

# Van Buren County



## Iowa Partnerships for Success Strategic Plan



**May 2016**

## Introduction

Iowa Partnerships for Success (IPFS) is a five year grant, funded through September 29, 2019, by the Iowa Department of Public Health through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. IPFS addresses the substance abuse prevention priorities of reducing Underage Drinking and youth binge drinking among persons aged 12 to 20. Van Buren County is one of 12 counties in Iowa selected to receive the IPFS grant due to high rates of underage alcohol use. This was based on data including 30-day alcohol use and binge drinking data from the 2010 and 2012 Iowa Youth Survey. The IPFS grant utilizes the Strategic Prevention Framework. This is a five-step, data driven process used to 1) assess needs; 2) build capacity; 3) engage in a strategic planning process; 4) implement a strategic plan and 5) evaluate processes and outcomes. Cultural competency and sustainability are a focus across all five SPF steps.

The Van Buren County SAFE Coalition has been in existence since 2002. It was federally funded through a Drug Free Communities grant from 2005-2015. Near the end of that funding the coalition chose to apply for an Iowa Partnerships for Success Grant to continue the work of the coalition to address Underage Drinking and Underage Binge Drinking in the county. The following are the vision and mission of the coalition:

**Vision Statement:** Committed to making Van Buren County a SAFE place to live.

**Mission Statement:** The Van Buren County SAFE Coalition seeks to stimulate community involvement to promote responsible behaviors among youth and adults; leading to a SAFE (Substance Abuse Free Environment) and healthy community.

Since receiving the IPFS Grant the coalition, with the help of its members and key partners in the community, have completed a comprehensive assessment of Underage Drinking and Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County. This was done by completing the County Assessment Workbook and administering the Tri-Ethnic Readiness Survey. Coalition and community members were involved in the assessment phase through discussions at coalition meetings, gathering data, helping with interviews, inviting community members to focus groups and discussing the data collected.

Coalition members also worked to increase the coalition's capacity to address the issues in the county by completing the County Capacity Workbook. The coalition members were involved in the capacity building process by participating in coalition meetings to discuss who is involved in the work of substance abuse prevention, who is missing at the coalition table and who needs to be invited to prevention work in Van Buren County. Coalition members invited community members to become involved in the coalition and reviewed the capacity documents that were submitted to IDPH during a coalition meeting.

All of this work has included representatives from Harmony Community Schools, Van Buren Community Schools, Van Buren County Hospital, Van Buren County Public Health, Van Buren County Sheriff's Office, Van Buren County Juvenile Probation, Epiphany Community Services, Sieda Community Action, DFC Grantee, military, parents, youth, young adults, faith community and other youth serving organizations.

## Priority Area: Addressing Underage Drinking

### 1. Assessment

Upon reviewing the data collected for the County Assessment Workbook and scoring the areas based on the provided score sheet the top two areas the coalition and evaluation committee prioritized for Van Buren County were: Social Availability and Community Norms.

The data that stood out to the coalition during the assessment process was the ease of access to alcohol by youth through social settings in the community and the attitude that at a certain age it is a rite of passage for youth to begin drinking. The disparate population (age group/population that is at greatest risk) identified for Underage Drinking in Van Buren County is 27% of the 16-18 year olds (N=122) as identified by the 2014 Iowa Youth Survey (IYS) 30 day use data. The data shows that 27% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders (N=54) have had at least one drink in the past 30 days. This is the largest percentage of youth impacted in Van Buren County with only 2% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders (N=62) and 12% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders (N=76) reporting that they have had at least one drink in the past 30 days. This data also shows the trend that as youth get older people do not think it is as bad for them to be drinking alcohol. During the IPFS Project the coalition will be working with the Van Buren Community Jr. /Sr. High School Counselor, who is a coalition member, to specifically identify this disparate population. All of the 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in the county will be attending this school unless they open enroll out to another district.

The identified intervening variables (why underage drinking is happening) to be addressed for Underage Drinking in Van Buren County are social availability and community norms. Data related to social availability showed the following: family members and near peers hosting parties where the youth are allowed to drink alcohol, there are more community events serving alcohol and needing to use the best practices for serving alcohol, and the culture around the softball tournaments makes it easy for kids to get alcohol during the tournaments and not worry about it being frowned upon. Information from the focus groups and individual interviews showed that family members and near peers are hosting parties where alcohol is available to youth. The youth and young adults, during the focus groups, also reported that it is easy for youth to get alcohol from family and friends. Data indicates that 10% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders (N=54) do not find it hard or very hard to get alcohol this is lower than the state average of 25%. The IYS data also shows that 27% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders (N=54) report using alcohol in the past 30 days.

The underlying conditions (why underage drinking is happening in Van Buren County) for social availability that the coalition believes can be addressed are near peers partying with youth, family members hosting parties, alcohol not being regulated at community events at privately owned facilities and alcohol at summer coed softball tournaments and other events on public property where alcohol is unmonitored. All of these conditions were found in the information shared by focus group members and in the data from the IYS as noted above. Youth reported in one on one interviews that alcohol is being accessed in the county at near peer parties and community events such as the softball tournaments. The community events documented during the focus

groups and county scans included but were not limited to, the ABATE End of Summer Motorcycle Rally, Chamber of Commerce Chili Cook-off and Cantril Dayz.

Data related to community norms showed the following: Information and assessments locally indicate that Underage Drinking has some acceptability in Van Buren County especially once students have graduated from high school. Focus group data showed community members felt there are inconsistencies in the law about being an adult. You can marry, enlist in the military and sign a legal contract all at the age of 18; which is viewed as being an 'adult', but cannot consume or purchase alcohol.

The underlying condition for community norms that the coalition believes can be addressed in Van Buren County is that advertising reinforces current consumption patterns, especially the attitude that at a certain age it is okay for youth to begin drinking alcohol. This will be accomplished by implementing the IDPH Media Campaign in Van Buren County through media pieces in the newspaper, on local radio stations, on KTVO which is a local television station and a billboard.

Currently the data gap that has been found in Van Buren County is health care data from the local hospital/clinics. The coalition is currently working with the hospital administration to gather data from their EPIC data system. The coalition has been working with the hospital administration during the past two years to be able to have access to their data. The struggle has been with changes in administration and their data collection systems changing and being based at the University of Iowa Hospital. The administrator of the hospital is open to sharing data with the coalition, but at this time the hospital staff are still working to see how to do that with the help of the University of Iowa Hospital.

## **2. Capacity**

The Tri-Ethnic Readiness Assessment results placed Van Buren County at a vague awareness for its stage of readiness. In discussing this result the coalition felt that it has representation from the community sectors and cultural groups, but not all of the representatives are always sharing the work and information about the coalition with their sector or cultural group. Coalition members need to be more conscious about the issue in the community and sharing it with others. The coalition will continue to work to grow its connections with key stakeholders, community sectors and cultural groups through better communication from representatives that are part of the coalition, communication at different meetings that the coalition staff will be attending, inviting new representatives to join the coalition meetings and through articles in the local newspaper.

The coalition identified the IDPH Media Campaign, Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events at Privately Owned Facilities, Alcohol Restrictions in Public Places and Social Host Liability as strategies to address Underage Drinking in Van Buren County. Currently the coalition believes that it will be able to implement these strategies through the partnerships with the county attorney, county sheriff, elected officials, local media and other key stakeholders in the community. The coalition has worked with these people in the past to implement strategies in the community and these people have expressed

support for the IPFS Project and the need to address Underage Drinking in the county. The coalition will address building capacity for the chosen strategies in the following ways:

- IDPH Media Campaign
  - Building connections with the local Newspaper, Radio Stations, TV Station and Billboard Owner.
- Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events at Privately Owned Facilities
  - Building connections with local event organizers, the city councils and county board of supervisors.
  - Educate the community through local media and community events about how strengthening these policies can benefit the youth in the county.
- Alcohol Use Restriction in Public Places
  - Evaluate the current policies in place in the county by engaging the city councils and law enforcement.
  - Develop stronger policies with the help of the county attorney
  - Enhance relationships with the city councils to encourage implementation of policies.
  - Educate the community through local media about the need for new ordinances to allow for the safe consumption of alcohol in public places.
- Local Social Host Ordinance
  - Working with the county attorney, county sheriff and county board of supervisors to identify and implement an appropriate local social host ordinance.
  - Working with the local newspaper to educate the community on the need for a local social host ordinance.

Based on a community readiness activity using the circles of involvement during a coalition meeting the following sectors were identified as being involved in the coalition:

- Van Buren County Public Health
- Van Buren County Sheriff's Department
- Youth through the Youth Leadership Council
- Harmony and Van Buren Community School Districts
- Parents
- Young Adults
- Van Buren County Juvenile Probation Officer
- Elected Officials
- Faith Based Groups
- Military
- Retailers
- Local Media

The following sectors were identified as needing additional readiness:

- Law Enforcement
- Local Elected Officials
- Military

- Faith Based Organizations
- Parents
- Young Adults

The steps to increase readiness to address Underage Drinking in the community include:

- Personal invitations from coalition members to individuals to be a part of the coalition.
- Education through news articles.
- Presentations by coalition members to these sectors.
- Presentations by coalition members to local and county government meetings.
- Communication by coalition members with individuals in one on one meetings
- Coalition members will engage partners involved with parent teacher conferences, NEST and Parents as Teachers events, 4-H leader activities and other groups that include adult and young adult community members.

The coalition has worked to include all cultures within the county. If a culture does not have a representative present at the coalition or Youth Leadership Council meetings the coalition has involved agencies that work with the culture in the coalition meetings. The coalition will continue to reach out to the different cultures during the IPFS Project. The IPFS Coordinator has asked coalition members to review all products for the project to make sure that they are culturally appropriate and meet the CLAS standards for healthcare. Coalition members have also been involved in making sure that appropriate CLAS standards for healthcare policies, practices and services are being included in the project. The coalition will continue to monitor its work in this way to make sure that it is meeting the standards for healthcare as provided by IDPH throughout the project.

The coalition during the assessment phase discovered that there are no suicide prevention services currently being offered in Van Buren County. Since the start of the IPFS Project the coalition has been able to re-engage the Van Buren County Public Health Department. This partnership has opened up the conversation with them and the Van Buren County Community Services coordinator about suicide prevention, the lack of services in the community and ways to address the lack of suicide prevention services in the community. The coalition has also been building the capacity to address suicide prevention in the community by attending other group meetings, such as: Human Resource Council, Child Abuse Prevention Council and other youth organizations such as 4-H and faith groups.

Over the last few months two counseling centers have begun to offer mental health services in the county. The local hospital is involved with one of them. When the hospital has a patient with suicide issues they are referring them to the counseling service who then helps the patient with services and placement as necessary. The counselor at the Van Buren Community Jr. /Sr. High School also refers students and families to both of the new mental health providers working in the county. The coalition will be working to build relationships with these community partners to help support suicide prevention services in the county.

The coalition has been working with the Van Buren Community School District to have their employees take the IDPH Kognito training. The VBCSD is looking into having this be a mandatory training that is part of their professional development for the 2016-17 school year. The IPFS Coordinator also shared the Kognito training with the local 4-H Coordinator who shared it with her adult volunteers at a training in January. The coalition has shared the information for the Kognito training with local faith based youth workers to utilize at their discretion.

The coalition has identified the following responsible partners to help carry out the readiness activities for the IPFS Project to address Underage Drinking in Van Buren County:

- IPFS Supervisor & Coordinator
- Youth Leadership Council Members & Coordinator
- Harmony & Van Buren Community School Districts, including the school counselor
- Van Buren County Sheriff's Office & Sheriff's Reserve Officers
- Van Buren County Attorney
- Van Buren County Public Health Department
- Van Buren County Hospital
- Van Buren County Register Newspaper
- Van Buren County Community Services Coordinator

### **3. Planning**

The coalition determined the strategies they would implement to address Underage Drinking in the county by having a series of discussions during their coalition meetings in November 2015, December 2015 and January 2016. During these meetings the coalition reviewed the data from the County Assessment Workbook, discussed the Underage Drinking problem, the intervening variables related to Underage Drinking, and what this really looks like in Van Buren County (underlying conditions). The Iowa Partnerships for Success Planning Guide and Evidence Based Practice Selection Workbook were utilized and the coalition referenced the guidelines for selecting best fit strategies, determining dosage and showing evidence of effectiveness in those documents.

The coalition determined that each strategy was a good conceptual fit by having detailed conversations during monthly coalition meetings using the IPFS materials as a guide. During the first discussion the coalition outlined that social availability (access to alcohol at parties in fields, at summer coed softball games, alcohol at more community events recently, parents hosting parties with alcohol served to minors, street dances at bars that do not have clear boundaries, the number of retail licenses being high per capita and alcohol being served at parties with near peers) and community norms (advertising reinforces current consumption patterns) are the reasons for Underage Drinking in Van Buren County. During the next discussion the coalition narrowed its focus to social availability (alcohol is unregulated at community events at privately owned facilities, parents hosting parties, near peers partying with teens and alcohol at community events on public property, such as summer coed softball games) and community norms (advertising reinforces current consumption patterns, especially that at a certain age it is okay for youth to begin drinking alcohol) as the areas that could be

addressed effectively in the county. At that same time the coalition decided that the IDPH Media Campaign, Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events, Alcohol Restrictions in Public Places and a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance that includes 18-20 year olds would all be strategies that would address these issues adequately in Van Buren County.

In order to determine the effectiveness of the selected strategies the coalition discussed past experiences and their success. They also used the “domino test” to determine community impact from strategies all the way through to the problem. The “domino test” asks the coalition members involved to think about the strategy in relation to the intervening variable and the underlying conditions. If each of these (strategy, intervening variable, and underlying condition) were a domino would they be close enough to have an impact on one another, i.e. would it cause the next domino to fall over.

During the discussion at the December 2015 coalition meeting the coalition members reviewed the options for environmental strategies provided in the Iowa Partnerships for Success Grant: Implementation Guide. The group agreed that the most effective strategies to address the issues of community norms and social availability for Van Buren County would be the IDPH Media Campaign, Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events at Privately Owned Facilities, Alcohol Use Restriction in Public Places and Social Host Liability. The coalition has previously implemented and sustained merchant alcohol trainings, merchant alcohol compliance checks, and policy changes in the community school districts to address the consequences for students for Underage Drinking infractions. The strategies selected to be implemented in Van Buren County are proven effective based on the underlying conditions identified in Van Buren County. The coalition felt these strategies would also prove to be effective in Van Buren County.

#### **IDPH Media Campaign:**

1. During coalition meeting conversations related to strategies it was discussed whether or not the IDPH Media Campaign was a practical fit for the county and if there are available resources for implementation of the campaign. The coalition found that it has connections with key stakeholders, such as: the Newspaper: Van Buren County Register; Radio Stations: KMEM and KMCD; TV Station: KTVO; Billboard Owner and others that will allow for the campaign to be implemented. Coalition members will also work to strengthen these relationships in order to implement the campaign effectively.
2. In order to determine the effectiveness of the IDPH Media Campaign the coalition discussed past experiences and their success. They considered that the IDPH Media Campaign can address the community norm that it does not cost youth anything to drink before the legal age of 21 and thus influence youth to choose not to drink while they are underage. This strategy will be effective if 75% of the 13-16 year olds (N=271) in the county will see the media campaign. This will be measured by surveys taken by students during their lunch hour at the Van Buren Community Jr. /Sr. High School with the help of the Youth Leadership Council Members in September 2019. The goal of the coalition is to utilize ads on the coalition’s website, blog and social media outlets; quarterly ads in the newspaper; quarterly articles in



- the newspaper; ads on local radio and T.V. stations; and a billboard in Keosauqua (the only billboard in the county).
3. The target population for the IDPH Media Campaign is ages 13-16 (N=271). If the coalition is successful in implementing the IDPH Media Campaign 75% of the 13-16 year olds (N=271) in the county will see the media campaign. This will be measured by surveys taken by students at the Van Buren Community Jr. /Sr. High School during their lunch hour with the help of the Youth Leadership Council in September 2019.
  4. The coalition involved the target population by including the Youth Leadership Council in a discussion on the issue of Underage Drinking in Van Buren County at their December meeting. During this discussion the students outlined similar intervening variables and underlying conditions. The students also agreed that the strategies that were being discussed would be applicable to the issues and that they would like to help in implementing them with the adults. The students will be involved in this by promoting the media campaign with their peers and spreading the message via social media networks. They will also be involved in surveying their peers about the Media Campaign. The IPFS Coordinator will be attending their meetings and including them in the discussions and implementation of the media campaign.
  5. The dosage for the IDPH Media Campaign is at least 75% of all 13-16 year olds (N=271) in the county will see the media campaign by September 29, 2019. The coalition during its discussions believed that this was a reasonable amount of youth to be able to reach in the time frame of the project. The expectation is that all of the youth will be reached by the campaign. If 75% of the youth are reached by the message of the campaign then Underage Drinking will be substantially reduced in Van Buren County.
  6. The coalition will ensure fidelity by completing each step as recommended in the Implementation Guide for the IDPH Media Campaign, by completing the fidelity checklists, and by being accountable to each other during committee and coalition meetings. The coalition staff will be recording all coalition activities in the REACH Evaluation System; this will provide another level of fidelity checks. The coalition will also be reporting progress made for each strategy quarterly to IDPH in the quarterly reports which will further ensure the fidelity of the work for the implementation of the strategy.
  7. The stakeholders and organizations that will assist the coalition are as follows: Van Buren Community Schools; Youth Leadership Council; Van Buren County Register; Van Buren Community Services; and Van Buren County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children. These groups and individuals have helped the coalition to engage others to represent the diversity in the county. They accomplished this by inviting people to the table, discussing the issues with people they are in contact with and they will continue to do so throughout the project. Coalition members will partner with the coalition to implement policies, practices and services that ensure cultural appropriateness. This will be done by having representatives at the coalition meetings to provide input on the policies practices and service. If representatives are unable to attend the meetings they will review materials that are supplied by the IPFS Coordinator either through email or during their own meetings. Finally, members and partners will help to provide materials and signage throughout the county in easy to understand formats, commonly used within the

county. Members and partners will also be asked to help develop the products to be shared with community members at coalition meetings, through email or when provided to them at meetings. They will also share the products in their organizations and communities.

8. The coalition has addressed the sustainability of the IDPH Media Campaign by discussing that it can continue to utilize the materials provided to the coalition after the IPFS Grant ends on the coalition's website, blog and social media outlets. The coalition will also work to make sure any key players in the community that would like to utilize the materials have what they need to do so after the project is completed.

#### **Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events:**

1. During coalition meeting conversations related to strategies it was discussed whether or not Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events held at privately owned facilities was a practical fit for the county and if there are available resources for implementation of Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events held at privately owned facilities. The coalition chose to address the events held at privately owned facilities because in the data in the County Assessment Workbook coalition members noted the community events held at privately owned facilities included: Abate Motorcycle Rally (Van Buren County Fairgrounds), Wedding Receptions (Roberts Memorial Building and Lacey-Keosauqua State Park). The coalition found that it has connections with key stakeholders, such as: facility owners (Van Buren County Fair Board, Roberts Building, and Keosauqua Senior Center), the county attorney, the county sheriff and others that will assist in the implementation of Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events. The coalition staff have worked with facility owners in the past on events that are hosted at their facilities and have attended the city council and board of supervisors meetings to let them know what the coalition is working on. Coalition members will also work to strengthen these relationships in order to implement Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events effectively.
2. In order to determine the effectiveness of the Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events the coalition discussed past experiences and their success. The coalition discussed that if at least 67% (N=12) of all privately owned facilities would begin to implement a policy requiring the best practices service of alcohol at events at their facility then the social availability of alcohol would be greatly reduced in the county. The expectation is that all of the facilities will adopt the best practices policy for alcohol at their facility removing the access to alcohol at community events for youth. This will reduce underage drinking in the county significantly.
3. The target population for Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events in the county are 12-20 year olds in Van Buren County (N=853). If the coalition is successful in implementing new Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events the youth in Van Buren County will have less access to alcohol through social activities. So, it will reduce Underage Drinking in Van Buren County.
4. The coalition involved the target population by including the Youth Leadership Council in a discussion on the issue of Underage Drinking in Van Buren County at their December meeting. During this discussion the students outlined similar intervening variables and underlying conditions. The students also agreed that the

- strategies that were being discussed would be applicable to the issues and that they would like to help in implementing them with the adults. The students will continue to be involved in the IPFS Project as the IPFS Coordinator will be attending their meetings and including them in the discussions, the implementation of strategies and the process of the adult coalition.
5. The dosage for Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events is at least 67% of all privately owned facilities (N=12) that host community events within the county will have at least one alcohol related policy change by September 29, 2019. The coalition during its discussions believed that this was a reasonable amount of facilities to be able to reach in the time frame of the project. The expectation is that all of the facilities will adopt the best practices and policies that will be recommended to them. If 67% of the community events reduce access to alcohol for community youth through policy changes then it will substantially reduce access to alcohol for youth in Van Buren County.
  6. The coalition will ensure fidelity by completing each step as recommended in the Implementation Guide for Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events, by completing the fidelity checklists, and by being accountable to each other during committee and coalition meetings. The coalition staff will be recording all coalition activities in the REACH Evaluation System; this will provide another level of fidelity checks. The coalition will also be reporting progress made for each strategy quarterly to IDPH in the quarterly reports which will further ensure the fidelity of the work for the implementation of the strategy.
  7. The stakeholders and organizations that will assist the coalition are as follows: Van Buren County Attorney; Van Buren County Sheriff's Office; Van Buren County Public Health; Sieda Community Action; Van Buren County Register; Van Buren Community Services; Van Buren County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children; Birmingham, Bonaparte, Cantril, Farmington, Keosauqua, Milton, Stockport, City Councils; and Van Buren County Fair Board. These groups and individuals have helped the coalition to engage others to represent the diversity in the county. They accomplished this by inviting people to the table, discussing the issues with people they are in contact with and they will continue to do so throughout the project. Coalition members will partner with the coalition to implement policies, practices and services that ensure cultural appropriateness. This will be done by having coalition members assist in the presentation and advocating of the Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events at Privately Owned Facilities to policy makers. Members will also attend coalition meetings to provide input on the policies practices and services. If representatives are unable to attend the meetings they will review materials that are supplied by the IPFS Coordinator either through email or during their own meetings. Finally, members and partners will help to provide materials and signage throughout the county in easy to understand formats, commonly used within the county. Members and partners will also be asked to help develop the products to be shared with community members at coalition meetings, through email or when provided to them at meetings. They will also share the products in their organizations and communities.
  8. The coalition has addressed the sustainability of Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events by choosing a strategy that once in place will be able to be sustained by partners such as the county sheriff and the county attorney. The coalition will work

with these partners to make sure that the responsibility for these strategies is passed on to the appropriate partners by September 29, 2019.

### **Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places**

1. During coalition meeting conversations related to strategies it was discussed whether or not Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places was a practical fit for the county and if there are available resources for implementation of Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places. The coalition found that it has connections with key stakeholders, such as: city councils, the county attorney, the county sheriff and others that will allow for Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places to be implemented. The coalition staff have attended the city council meetings to let them know what the coalition has worked on in the past and potential upcoming strategies. Coalition members will also work to strengthen these relationships in order to implement Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places effectively. Specifically, the coalition wants to see policies changed at public ball fields related to softball tournaments; but this policy will also cover other events that involve alcohol on public property.
2. In order to determine the effectiveness of the Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places the coalition discussed past experiences and their success. The coalition discussed that if 57% of the local governments in Van Buren County (N=7) would enact a policy that required best practices service of alcohol at community events on public property then the availability of alcohol to minors in the county would be greatly reduced. The expectation is to have all local governments enact the policy thereby reducing the access to alcohol of minors and causing a significant reduction in underage drinking in the county.
3. The target population for Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places in the county are 12-20 year olds in Van Buren County (N=853). If the coalition is successful in implementing new Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places the youth in Van Buren County will have less access to alcohol through social activities. So, it will reduce Underage Drinking in Van Buren County.
4. The coalition involved the target population by including the Youth Leadership Council in a discussion on the issue of Underage Drinking in Van Buren County at their December meeting. During this discussion the students outlined similar intervening variables and underlying conditions and on their own pointed out that alcohol is unregulated at community events in public places, such as at the summer coed softball tournaments. The students also agreed that the strategies that were being discussed would be applicable to the issues and that they would like to help in implementing them with the adults. The students are currently looking at strengthening policies related to tobacco use in public places and would like to add alcohol to these discussions. The IPFS Coordinator will be attending their meetings and including them in the discussions, the implementation of strategies and the process of the adult coalition. The young adults in the community were involved with the focus groups and pointed out the need to address alcohol at the summer coed softball games. The young adults will continue to be involved in the project by helping with the work of the coalition and attending meetings as they can.
5. The dosage for Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places is at least 57% of all incorporated cities (N=7) will have at least one alcohol-related policy change by

- September 29, 2019. This will limit the social availability of alcohol to youth in Van Buren County. The coalition during meeting discussions felt that this was a reasonable number of cities to be able to reach in the time frame of the project. Again, the expectation is that all of the cities will choose to implement the best practices policy that is developed through the assessment of current policies and presented to them for their city to put into place. If at least 57% of the cities enact these policy changes then the youth of Van Buren County will have a substantial reduction in access to alcohol through these social settings.
6. The coalition will ensure fidelity by completing each step as recommended in the Implementation Guide for Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places, by completing the fidelity checklists, and by being accountable to each other during committee and coalition meetings. The coalition staff will be recording all coalition activities in the REACH Evaluation System; this will provide another level of fidelity checks. The coalition will also be reporting progress made for each strategy quarterly to IDPH in the quarterly reports which will further ensure the fidelity of the work for the implementation of the strategy.
  7. The stakeholders and organizations that will assist the coalition are as follows: Van Buren County Attorney; Van Buren County Sheriff's Office; Van Buren County Public Health; Sieda Community Action; Van Buren County Register; Van Buren Community Services; Van Buren County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children; and Birmingham, Bonaparte, Cantril, Farmington, Keosauqua, Milton and Stockport City Councils. These groups and individuals have helped the coalition to engage others to represent the diversity in the county. They accomplished this by inviting people to the table, discussing the issues with people they are in contact with and they will continue to do so throughout the project. Coalition members will partner with the coalition to implement policies, practices and services that ensure cultural appropriateness. This will be done by having coalition members assist in the presentation and advocating of the Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places to policy makers. Members will also attend coalition meetings to provide input on the policies practices and services. If representatives are unable to attend the meetings they will review materials that are supplied by the IPFS Coordinator either through email or during their own meetings. Finally, members and partners will help to provide materials and signage throughout the county in easy to understand formats, commonly used within the county. Members and partners will also be asked to help develop the products to be shared with community members at coalition meetings, through email or when provided to them at meetings. They will also share the products in their organizations and communities.
  8. The coalition has addressed the sustainability of Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places by choosing a strategy that once in place will be able to be sustained by partners such as the county sheriff, the county attorney and the city government officials that have put them in place. The coalition will work with these partners to make sure that the responsibility for these strategies is passed on to the appropriate partners by September 29, 2019.

### **Social Host Liability**

1. During coalition meeting conversations related to strategies it was discussed whether or not a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance was a practical fit for the

- county and if there are available resources for implementation of a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance. The coalition members noted that in the past they had attempted to work on a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance before the State Social Host Liability Ordinance had been put in place. At that time there was not a good response from the community. Now that the state and a neighboring county have established Social Host Liability Ordinances the coalition members believed that community members would be more open to a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance that would be able to address the specific needs of Van Buren County residents and property owners. The coalition found that it has connections with key stakeholders, such as: the county board of supervisors, the county attorney, the county sheriff and others that will allow for a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance to be implemented. Coalition members will also work to strengthen these relationships in order to implement a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance effectively.
2. In order to determine the effectiveness of a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance the coalition discussed past experiences and their success. Specifically they discussed the previous attempts to begin working towards a Local Social Host Ordinance that were stopped. During that discussion it was identified that since then a general statewide Social Host Ordinance was passed, a neighboring county put a local Social Host Ordinance in place, a new county attorney has been elected and there is a need to address 18-20 year olds in the county. The coalition members agreed that with the new relationship with the county attorney it is more likely that this ordinance could be implemented. There was also discussion that for the ordinance to be passed it would need to address the rural nature of the county and have input from law enforcement and the county attorney to make sure it will be enforceable and able to be prosecuted in the judicial system. This ordinance when enforced and prosecuted would cause a substantial reduction in social availability of alcohol to minors and would thus cause a reduction in underage drinking in the county.
  3. The target population for a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance in the county are 12-20 year olds in Van Buren County (N=853). If the coalition is successful in implementing a new Local Social Host Liability Ordinance the youth in Van Buren County will have less access to alcohol through social activities. So, it will reduce Underage Drinking in Van Buren County.
  4. The coalition involved the target population by including the Youth Leadership Council in a discussion on the issue of Underage Drinking in Van Buren County at their December meeting. During this discussion the students outlined similar intervening variables and underlying conditions. The students also agreed that the strategies that were being discussed would be applicable to the issues and that they would like to help in implementing them with the adults. The students will continue to be involved in the IPFS Project as the IPFS Coordinator will be attending their meetings and including them in the discussions, the implementation of strategies and the process of the adult coalition.
  5. The dosage for a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance is to pass a county wide social host ordinance. The coalition members agreed that with the only law enforcement agency in the county being the Sheriff's Department the Local Social Host Liability Ordinance must be addressed as a county wide ordinance instead of in individual towns. This will allow for consistent enforcement and understanding throughout the county. This will also have the greatest impact on the target population.

6. The coalition will ensure fidelity by completing each step as recommended in the Implementation Guide for Social Host Liability, by completing the fidelity checklists, and by being accountable to each other during committee and coalition meetings. The coalition staff will be recording all coalition activities in the REACH Evaluation System; this will provide another level of fidelity checks. The coalition will also be reporting progress made for each strategy quarterly to IDPH in the quarterly reports which will further ensure the fidelity of the work for the implementation of the strategy.
7. The stakeholders and organizations that will assist the coalition are as follows: Van Buren County Attorney; Van Buren County Sheriff's Office; Van Buren County Public Health; Sieda Community Action; Van Buren County Register; Van Buren Community Services; Van Buren County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children; and Van Buren County Board of Supervisors. These groups and individuals have helped the coalition to engage others to represent the diversity in the county. They accomplished this by inviting people to the table, discussing the issues with people they are in contact with and they will continue to do so throughout the project. Coalition members will partner with the coalition to implement policies, practices and services that ensure cultural appropriateness. This will be done by having coalition members assist in the presentation and advocating of the Local Social Host Ordinance to policy makers. Members will also attend coalition meetings to provide input on the policies practices and services. If representatives are unable to attend the meetings they will review materials that are supplied by the IPFS Coordinator either through email or during their own meetings. Finally, members and partners will help to provide materials and signage throughout the county in easy to understand formats, commonly used within the county. Members and partners will also be asked to help develop the products to be shared with community members at coalition meetings, through email or when provided to them at meetings. They will also share the products in their organizations and communities.
8. The coalition has addressed the sustainability of a Local Social Host Liability Ordinance by choosing a strategy that once in place will be able to be sustained by partners such as the county sheriff, the county attorney and the county government officials that have put it in place. The coalition will work with these partners to make sure that the responsibility for this strategy is passed on to the appropriate partners by September 29, 2019.

Currently there are no Suicide Prevention Services being provided in Van Buren County. Recently two counseling/mental health organizations have begun to offer mental health services in the county. The hospital does refer patients to one of these organizations and they are providing emergency room services for emergent cases including suicidal patients. The Van Buren Community Schools Middle/High School counselor is also referring students and families to these two providers. The coalition will be working to establish a relationship with these two organizations to develop suicide prevention services in the county. The coalition will continue to promote the Your Life Iowa and National Suicide Prevention Lifeline through its membership and at community events. The coalition will also continue to promote the Kognito trainings with Harmony Community School District, Van Buren Community School District and other youth serving groups in the county such as 4-H, faith groups and others. The plan is that the

school districts will make the Kognito Trainings a mandatory part of their staff training. The coalition will also be encouraging the youth organizations and faith based youth leaders to take the training and use it with new leaders as they need to.

4. **Logic Model** (please see attached Logic Model)
5. **Action Plan** (please see attached Action Plan)



## Priority Area: Addressing Underage Binge Drinking

### 1. Assessment

Upon reviewing the data collected for the County Assessment Workbook and scoring the areas based on the provided score sheet the top two areas the coalition and evaluation committee prioritized for Van Buren County were: Social Availability and Individual Factors.

The data that stood out to the coalition during the assessment process was the ease of access to alcohol by youth through social settings in the community and the attitude that at a certain age it is a rite of passage for youth to begin drinking. The disparate population (age group) identified for Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County is 14% of 12-17 year olds (N=413) as 7% of students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade (N=185) reported on the 2014 Iowa Youth Survey that they had at least once in the past 30 days had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row within a couple of hours and 14% of them (N=185) reported having had at least one drink of alcohol in the past 30 days. During the IPFS Project the coalition will be working with the Van Buren Community Jr. /Sr. High School Counselor, who is a coalition member, to specifically identify this disparate population. All of the 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in the county will be attending this school unless they open enroll out to another district.

The identified intervening variables to be addressed for Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County are social availability and individual factors. Data related to social availability showed the following: Information and assessments locally indicate that Underage Binge Drinking has some acceptability in Van Buren County as noted in the focus group reports and information from one on one interviews.

The underlying condition for social availability that the coalition believes can be addressed is the availability of alcohol in large amounts in public places primarily during the summer coed softball games.

The data for individual factors showed the following: The perception is that the youth at greatest risk for Underage Binge Drinking are those who believe that they only drink once and a while so they can drink a lot at one time, believe that drinking heavily cannot harm them or are impacted with mental health concerns either of their own or of their families. This information comes from the data gathered from the IYS, Focus Groups and discussions with school staff members.

The underlying condition the coalition believes can be addressed for individual factors is the education of youth in the school system with the LifeSkills Training Program. This program will impact those in middle school and the information will carry through with them beyond high school.

Currently the data gap that has been found in Van Buren County is health care data from the local hospital/clinics. The coalition is currently working with the hospital administration to gather data from their EPIC data system. The coalition has been working with the hospital administration during the past two years to be able to have access to their data. The struggle has been with changes in administration and their

data collection systems changing and being based at the University of Iowa Hospital. The administrator of the hospital is open to sharing data with the coalition, but at this time the hospital staff are still working to see how to do that with the help of the University of Iowa Hospital.

## **2. Capacity**

The Tri-Ethnic Readiness Assessment results placed Van Buren County at a vague awareness for its stage of readiness. In discussing this result the coalition felt that it has representation from the community sectors and cultural groups, but not all of the representatives are always sharing the work and information about the coalition with their sector or cultural group. Coalition members need to be more conscious about the issue in the community and sharing it with others. The coalition will continue to work to grow its connections with key stakeholders, community sectors and cultural groups through better communication from representatives that are part of the coalition, communication at different meetings that the coalition staff will be attending, inviting new representatives to join the coalition meetings and through articles in the local newspaper.

The coalition identified Alcohol Use Restriction in Public Places and the LifeSkills Training Program as strategies to address Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County. Currently the coalition believes that it will be able to implement these strategies through the partnerships with the county attorney, county sheriff, elected officials, Van Buren Community School District and other key stakeholders in the community. The coalition has worked with these people in the past to implement strategies in the community and these people have expressed support for the IPFS Project and the need to address Underage Binge Drinking in the county. The coalition will address building capacity for the chosen strategies in the following ways:

- Alcohol Use Restriction in Public Places
  - Evaluate the current policies in place in the county by engaging the city councils and law enforcement.
  - Develop stronger policies with the help of the county attorney
  - Enhance relationships with the city councils to encourage implementation of policies.
  - Educate the community through local media about the need for new ordinances to allow for the safe consumption of alcohol in public places.
- LifeSkills Training Program
  - Inform the Van Buren Community School Board, Administration and Staff of the program and encourage their involvement and support of the LifeSkills Training Program.
  - Train the chosen teacher and community members to facilitate the program
  - Educate the parents about the program through the schools communication network
  - Educate community members about the program through the local media

Based on a community readiness activity using the circles of involvement during a coalition meeting the following sectors were identified as being involved in the coalition:

- Van Buren County Public Health
- Van Buren County Sheriff's Department
- Youth through the Youth Leadership Council
- Harmony and Van Buren Community School Districts
- Parents
- Young Adults
- Van Buren County Juvenile Probation Officer
- Elected Officials
- Faith Based Groups
- Military
- Retailers
- Local Media

The following sectors were identified as needing additional readiness:

- Law Enforcement
- Local Elected Officials
- Military
- Faith Based Organizations
- Parents
- Young Adults

The steps to increase readiness to address Underage Binge Drinking in the community include:

- Personal invitations from coalition members to individuals to be a part of the coalition.
- Education through news articles.
- Presentations by coalition members to these sectors.
- Presentations by coalition members to local and county government meetings.
- Communication by coalition members with individuals in one on one meetings
- Coalition members will engage partners involved with parent teacher conferences, NEST and Parents as Teachers events, 4-H leader activities and other groups that include adult and young adult community members.

The coalition has worked to include all cultures within the county. If a culture does not have a representative present at the coalition or Youth Leadership Council meetings the coalition has involved agencies that work with the culture in the coalition meetings. The coalition will continue to reach out to the different cultures during the IPFS Project. The IPFS Coordinator has asked coalition members to review all products for the project to make sure that they are culturally appropriate and meet the CLAS standards for healthcare. Coalition members have also been involved in making sure that appropriate CLAS standards for healthcare policies, practices and services are being included in the project. The coalition will continue to monitor its work in this way to make sure that it is meeting the standards for healthcare as provided by IDPH throughout the project.

The coalition during the assessment phase discovered that there are no suicide prevention services currently being offered in Van Buren County. Since the start of the

IPFS Project the coalition has been able to re-engage the Van Buren County Public Health Department. This partnership has opened up the conversation with them and the Van Buren County Community Services coordinator about suicide prevention, the lack of services in the community and ways to address the lack of suicide prevention services in the community. The coalition has also been building the capacity to address suicide prevention in the community by attending other group meetings, such as: Human Resource Council, Child Abuse Prevention Council and other youth organizations such as 4-H and faith groups.

Over the last few months two counseling centers have begun to offer mental health services in the county. The local hospital is involved with one of them. When the hospital has a patient with suicide issues they are referring them to the counseling service who then helps the patient with services and placement as necessary. The counselor at the Van Buren Community Jr. /Sr. High School also refers students and families to both of the new mental health providers working in the county. The coalition will be working to build relationships with these community partners to help support suicide prevention services in the county.

The coalition has been working with the Van Buren Community School District to have their employees take the IDPH Kognito training. The VBCSD is looking into having this be a mandatory training that is part of their professional development for the 2016-17 school year. The IPFS Coordinator also shared the Kognito training with the local 4-H Coordinator who shared it with her adult volunteers at a training in January. The coalition has shared the information for the Kognito training with local faith based youth workers to utilize at their discretion.

The coalition has identified the following responsible partners to help carry out the readiness activities for the IPFS Project to address Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County:

- IPFS Supervisor & Coordinator
- Youth Leadership Council Members & Coordinator
- Harmony & Van Buren Community School Districts, including the school counselor
- Van Buren County Sheriff's Office & Sheriff's Reserve Officers
- Van Buren County Attorney
- Van Buren County Public Health Department
- Van Buren County Hospital
- Van Buren County Register Newspaper
- Van Buren County Community Services Coordinator

### **3. Planning**

The coalition determined the strategies they would implement to address Underage Binge Drinking in the county by having a series of discussions during their coalition meetings in November 2015, December 2015 and January 2016. During these meetings the coalition reviewed the data from the County Assessment Workbook, discussed the Underage Binge Drinking problem, the intervening variables related to Underage Binge Drinking, and what this really looks like in Van Buren County (underlying conditions). The Iowa Partnerships for success planning guide and Evidence Based Practice Selection

workbook were utilized and the coalition referenced the guidelines for selecting best fit strategies, determining dosage and showing evidence of effectiveness in those documents.

The coalition determined that the following strategies were a good conceptual fit by having detailed conversations during monthly coalition meetings using the IPFS materials as a guide. During the first discussion the coalition outlined that individual factors (youth only attend parties a few times and drink a lot when they do drink & the youth do not think that binge drinking can harm them) and social availability (coolers of alcohol allowed at events and they are not monitored & adult parties with large amounts of alcohol consumed) are the reasons for Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County. During the next discussion the coalition narrowed its focus to individual factors (youth do not think that binge drinking can harm them) and social availability (coolers of alcohol allowed at public events, specifically the summer coed softball games, and left unmonitored) as the areas that could be addressed effectively in the county. At that same time the coalition decided that alcohol restrictions in public places (specifically at the ball parks in each town) and the LifeSkills Training Program with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students at Van Buren Community Middle School would be strategies that would address these issues adequately in Van Buren County.

Coalition members utilized the IDPH documents to ensure that the strategies selected would impact the intervening variables and underlying conditions. During the discussion at the December 2015 coalition meeting the coalition members reviewed the options for environmental strategies provided in the Implementation Guide. The group agreed that the most effective strategies to address the issues of social availability and individual factors for Van Buren County would be alcohol restrictions in public places and the LifeSkills Training Program. The information provided in the Implementation guide addressed the concerns of youth having access to alcohol at the community activities in public places and the attitudes they have about binge drinking.

### **Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places**

1. During coalition meeting conversations related to strategies it was discussed whether or not Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places was a practical fit for the county and if there are available resources for implementation of Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places. The coalition found that it has connections with key stakeholders, such as: city councils, the county attorney, the county sheriff and others that will allow for Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places to be implemented. The coalition staff have attended the city council meetings to let them know what the coalition has worked on in the past and potential upcoming strategies. Coalition members will also work to strengthen these relationships in order to implement Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places effectively. Specifically, the coalition wants to see policies changed at public ball fields related to softball tournaments; but this policy will also cover other events that involve alcohol on public property.
2. In order to determine the effectiveness of the Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places the coalition discussed past experiences and their success. The coalition discussed that if 57% of the local governments in Van Buren County (N=7) would

- enact a policy that required best practices service of alcohol at community events on public property then the availability of alcohol to minors in the county would be greatly reduced as well as a reduction in adults binge drinking in front of youth at these public events. The expectation is to have all local governments enact the policy thereby reducing the access to alcohol of minors and causing a significant reduction in underage binge drinking at these events in the county.
3. The target population for Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places in the county are 12-20 year olds in Van Buren County (N=853). If the coalition is successful in implementing new Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places the youth in Van Buren County will have less access to alcohol through social activities. So, it will reduce Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County.
  4. The coalition involved the target population by including the Youth Leadership Council in a discussion on the issue of Underage Drinking in Van Buren County at their December meeting. During this discussion the students outlined similar intervening variables and underlying conditions and on their own pointed out that alcohol is unregulated at community events in public places. The students also agreed that the strategies that were being discussed would be applicable to the issues and that they would like to help in implementing them with the adults. The students are currently looking at strengthening policies related to tobacco use in public places and would like to add alcohol to these discussions. The IPFS Coordinator will be attending their meetings and including them in the discussions, the implementation of strategies and the process of the adult coalition. The young adults in the community were involved with the focus groups and pointed out the need to address alcohol at the summer coed softball games. The young adults will continue to be involved in the project by helping with the work of the coalition and attending meetings as they can.
  5. The dosage for Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places is at least 57% of all incorporated cities (N=7) will have at least one alcohol-related policy change by September 29, 2019. This will limit the social availability of alcohol to youth in Van Buren County. The coalition during meeting discussions felt that this was a reasonable number of cities to be able to reach in the time frame of the project. Again, the expectation is that all of the cities will choose to implement the best practices policy that is developed through the assessment of current policies and presented to them for their city to put into place. If at least 57% of the cities enact these policy changes then the youth of Van Buren County will have a substantial reduction in access to alcohol through these social settings.
  6. The coalition will ensure fidelity by completing each step as recommended in the Implementation Guide for Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places, by completing the fidelity checklists, and by being accountable to each other during committee and coalition meetings. The coalition staff will be recording all coalition activities in the REACH Evaluation System; this will provide another level of fidelity checks. The coalition will also be reporting progress made for each strategy quarterly to IDPH in the quarterly reports which will further ensure the fidelity of the work for the implementation of the strategy.
  7. The stakeholders and organizations that will assist the coalition are as follows: Van Buren County Attorney; Van Buren County Sheriff's Office; Van Buren County Public Health; Sieda Community Action; Van Buren County Register; Van Buren Community

Services; Van Buren County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children; and Birmingham, Bonaparte, Cantril, Farmington, Keosauqua, Milton and Stockport City Councils. These groups and individuals have helped the coalition to engage others to represent the diversity in the county. They accomplished this by inviting people to the table, discussing the issues with people they are in contact with and they will continue to do so throughout the project. Coalition members will partner with the coalition to implement policies, practices and services that ensure cultural appropriateness. This will be done by having representatives at the coalition meetings to provide input on the policies practices and service. If representatives are unable to attend the meetings they will review materials that are supplied by the IPFS Coordinator either through email or during their own meetings. Finally, members and partners will help to provide materials and signage throughout the county in easy to understand formats, commonly used within the county. Members and partners will also be asked to help develop the products to be shared with community members at coalition meetings, through email or when provided to them at meetings. They will also share the products in their organizations and communities.

8. The coalition has addressed the sustainability of Alcohol Use Restrictions in Public Places by choosing a strategy that once in place will be able to be sustained by partners such as the county sheriff, the county attorney and the city government officials that have put them in place. The coalition will work with these partners to make sure that the responsibility for these strategies is passed on to the appropriate partners by September 29, 2019.

### **LifeSkills Training Program**

1. During coalition meeting conversations related to strategies it was discussed whether or not the LifeSkills Training Program was a practical fit for the county and if there are available resources for implementation of the LifeSkills Training Program. The coalition found that it has connections with the key stakeholder, Van Buren Community Schools (the only district in Van Buren County that deals with Middle School and High School students as of the 2016-17 school year) that will allow for the LifeSkills Training Program to be implemented. Coalition members will also work to strengthen this relationship in order to implement the LifeSkills Training Program effectively.
2. In order to determine the effectiveness of the LifeSkills Training Program the coalition discussed past experiences and their success. The LifeSkills Training Program will be able to educate the youth on how any drinking as a minor can cause harm to them and show them how to make better choices for themselves. Thus increasing the perception of harm to themselves and their peers of drinking alcohol as a minor. It will also be able to show them how binge drinking harms the brain and the ability to make good choices thus opening themselves to other dangerous situations when they are binge drinking. This program will give the youth of the community information they are not currently receiving in school. This program will cause a reduction in underage binge drinking and underage drinking because the perception of harm will increase and the youth will have better thinking skills to make better choices for themselves.

3. The target population for the LifeSkills Training Program in the county is youth (age 12-13) living in Van Buren County (N=150). If the coalition is successful in implementing the LifeSkills Training Program then the youth will understand the dangers of binge drinking for them physically and socially. So, it will reduce Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County.
4. The coalition involved the target population by including the Youth Leadership Council in a discussion on the issue of Underage Binge Drinking in Van Buren County at their December meeting. During this discussion the students outlined similar intervening variables and underlying conditions. They also stated that they do not receive education on underage drinking or underage binge drinking in school. The students also agreed that the strategies that were being discussed would have an impact on the issue of Underage Binge Drinking and that they would like to help in implementing them with the adults. The students will continue to be involved in the IPFS Project as the IPFS Coordinator will be attending their meetings and including them in the discussions, implementation of strategies and the process of the adult coalition.
5. The dosage for the LifeSkills Training Program is to have 95% of 7th and 8th grade students attending school in Van Buren County (N=150) participating in this program at the Van Buren Community Jr. /Sr. High School, the only school in the county for this age group to attend. The coalition during its discussions believed that this would be the optimal age and way to reach the majority of youth in Van Buren County to help them understand the dangers of underage alcohol use and youth binge drinking.
6. The LifeSkills Training Program will be offered annually to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students attending school in Van Buren County at the Van Buren Community Jr. /Sr. High School, the only school in the county for this age group to attend.
7. The coalition will ensure fidelity by completing each step as recommended in the Implementation Guide for Individual Strategies, by completing the fidelity checklists, and by being accountable to each other during committee and coalition meetings. The coalition staff will be recording all coalition activities in the REACH Evaluation System; this will provide another level of fidelity checks. The coalition will also be reporting progress made for each strategy quarterly to IDPH in the quarterly reports which will further ensure the fidelity of the work for the implementation of the strategy.
8. The stakeholders and organizations that will assist the coalition are as follows: Van Buren Community School District; Van Buren County Register; Van Buren County Child Welfare Decategorization "Decat" Project; and Van Buren County Community Partnerships for Protecting Children. These groups and individuals have helped the coalition to engage others to represent the diversity in the county. They accomplished this by inviting people to the table, discussing the issues with people they are in contact with and they will continue to do so throughout the project. Coalition members will partner with the coalition to implement policies, practices and services that ensure cultural appropriateness. This will be done by having representatives at the coalition meetings to provide input on the policies practices and service. If representatives are unable to attend the meetings they will review materials that are supplied by the IPFS Coordinator either through email or during their own meetings. Finally, members and partners will help to provide materials



and signage throughout the county in easy to understand formats, commonly used within the county. Members and partners will also be asked to help develop the products to be shared with community members at coalition meetings, through email or when provided to them at meetings. They will also share the products in their organizations and communities.

9. The coalition has addressed the sustainability of the LifeSkills Training Program by having conversations with a community partner that has offered that they would be willing to support this program for the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students after the IPFS Project has been completed. The coalition will work with the Van Buren Community School District and the community partner to make sure that the responsibility for the LifeSkills Training Program is passed on to them by September 29, 2019.

Currently there are no Suicide Prevention Services being provided in Van Buren County. Recently two counseling/mental health organizations have begun to offer mental health services in the county. The hospital does refer patients to one of these organizations and they are providing emergency room services for emergent cases including suicidal patients. The Van Buren Community Schools Middle/High School counselor is also referring students and families to these two providers. The coalition will be working to establish a relationship with these two organizations to develop suicide prevention services in the county. The coalition will continue to promote the Your Life Iowa and National Suicide Prevention Lifeline through its membership and at community events. The coalition will also continue to promote the Kognito trainings with Harmony Community School District, Van Buren Community School District and other youth serving groups in the county such as 4-H, faith groups and others. The plan is that the school districts will make the Kognito Trainings a mandatory part of their staffs training. The coalition will also be encouraging the youth organizations and faith based youth leaders to take the training and use it with new leaders as they need to.

4. **Logic Model** (Please see attached Logic Model)
5. **Action Plan** (Please see attached Action Plan)

## Conclusion

The goals for the coalition during the IPFS Project are to accomplish the following strategies to keep the youth, ages 12-20, of Van Buren County alcohol free and safe. The coalition also wants to make sure the youth learn about life choices, especially with alcohol, and how to make wise choices for themselves and their families so that they can become productive adults who will then become the new leaders in the county.

- a. Implement the Underage Drinking Media Campaign provided by IDPH in Van Buren County through local media, i.e. Billboard in Keosauqua (the only billboard in the county), Coalition Social Media Venues (Face Book, Coalition Website and Blog), Van Buren County Register (the only local newspaper), Radio and TV stations. This campaign will raise the awareness of community members about the dangers of underage drinking.
- b. Implement Alcohol Restrictions at Community Events at each privately owned facility. This will allow each facility to set clear expectations of how alcohol will be served in their establishment so that it will be served safely and will not allow youth to have access to alcohol during events at their establishment.
- c. Implement Alcohol Use Restriction in Public Places through each city council that will allow each community in Van Buren County to have policies that will provide best practice service of alcohol in public places. This will include public ball fields where coed softball tournaments are held. This will reduce youth access to alcohol during activities held in public places.
- d. Implement a local social host ordinance that will discourage adults, especially near peers, from allowing youth ages 12-20 to have alcohol during parties or while on their property.
- e. Implement the LifeSkills Training Program at Van Buren Community Schools in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes so that all youth in the county can learn how to make wise choices for themselves and their families, especially pertaining to alcohol use now and in the future.