

RESOLUTION NO. 22 - _____

Resolution Approving Collaboration Between The Richland County Board Of Supervisors And The Richland County Sheriff to Assist In Efforts To Reduce Underage Alcohol Consumption.

WHEREAS, alcohol continues to be the number one drug of choice among Richland County youth; and

WHEREAS, research shows the human brain continues to develop into a person’s mid-20’s and that development is influenced by a person’s environment and exposure to drugs and alcohol; and

WHEREAS, people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence at some time in their lives as compared to those who have their first drink at age 20 or older; and

WHEREAS, underage drinking is linked to youth depression, academic failure, suicide, and violence, including sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, underage drinking is considered a drug of initiation leading to other drug use, and

WHEREAS, alcohol continues to kill and harm more youth than all other illegal drugs combined; and

WHEREAS, studies show parents talking to other parents and taking other concrete steps to prevent underage drinking are the most powerful influences in a young person’s life; and

WHEREAS, 35% of Richland County high school youth report drinking alcohol prior to the age of 13 (2019 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey); and

WHEREAS, 23% of Richland County high school youth report having consumed at least one drink of alcohol in the last 30 days (2019 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey); and

WHEREAS, youth report “easy access” to alcohol, and parents/adults are consenting to underage drinking on private property.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in furtherance of these important efforts, I, Sheriff of the County of Richland, Wisconsin, and the Board of Supervisors, do hereby agree to collaborate with Crimestoppers, Partners for Prevention, and other citizen groups to prevent private property owners from illegally allowing youth (other than their child) to drink alcohol. Using research-based best practices for party patrols, Sheriff's Department officers will investigate and respond to reports of Social Host violations. If the reports result in a violation, citations may be issued to youth and property owners. Furthermore, in an effort to change local conditions all reports of alleged violations of the Social Host Law will be communicated to the District Attorney's office and shared with the county LE Judicial Committee. We hereby invite the citizens of Richland County to pledge support for continued strategic efforts to reduce youth access to alcohol and consumption in our county.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

VOTE ON FOREGOING RESOLUTION

AYES _____ NOES _____

RESOLUTION _____

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY THE LAW
ENFORCEMENT AND JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

DEREK S. KALISH
COUNTY CLERK

DATED: JANUARY 18, 2022

FOR AGAINST

MELISSA LUCK
DAVID TURK
CHAD COSGROVE
DANIEL MCGUIRE
KERRY SEVERSON