

Tri-Ethnic Readiness Assessment Results

County: Van Buren

Priority: Underage Drinking

Interviews:

1. Law Enforcement (Did not answer all questions so unable to score all sections)
2. Health
3. School
4. Faith
5. Young Adult
6. Youth
7. Youth

Calculated Scores: Use the combined score TOTAL agreed upon by scorers and divide by the number of interviews conducted. Add each calculated score together and enter the total under the average overall county readiness score.

TOTAL Knowledge of Efforts $24.5 \div \# \text{ of interviews } 7 = 3.5$

TOTAL Leadership $26 \div \# \text{ of interviews } 7 = 3.7$

TOTAL Community Climate $23 \div \# \text{ of interviews } 6 = 3.8$

TOTAL Knowledge of Issue $21.5 \div \# \text{ of interviews } 7 = 3.1$

TOTAL Resources $19.5 \div \# \text{ of interviews } 6 = 3.3$

Average Overall County Readiness Score: 17.4

Overall Stage of Readiness: Take the TOTAL calculated score and divide by 5. Remember to round down instead of up.

TOTAL Calculated Score $17.4 \div 5 = 3.48$

Stage of Readiness: Vague Awareness

Comments, impressions and qualifying statements about the county:

Van Buren County is a rural and agricultural county with limited numbers of factories and other businesses. There are no national chain stores/businesses in the county outside of gas stations/convenience stores. There are more gravel road then paved roads in this 500 square mile county. There are also no stop lights in the county.

The county is made up of ten towns (Birmingham, Bentonsport, Bonaparte, Cantril, Douds, Farmington, Keosauqua – County Seat, Milton, Selma and Stockport). The total population of the county is 7,436.

There are two school districts in the county that are beginning to discuss whole grade sharing and currently share teachers. There is a Community College that has a hub in Keosauqua that offers some college services to the community, but not full services.

There is one hospital in the county located in Keosauqua that has clinics in five towns. There is also one dentist in the county, chiropractors and independent doctors. Each town has its own volunteer fire department. There are three ambulance services in the county; one based out of the hospital, one based out of Bonaparte and one out of Farmington.

The law enforcement in the county is the County Sheriff's Department (based in Keosauqua) and Iowa State Patrol (based outside of the county in Mt Pleasant, IA).

Concerns or Areas to Work on: The coalition has representation from the community sectors, but not all of the representatives are always sharing the work and information about the coalition with their sector. Coalition members need to be more conscious about the issue in the community and sharing it with others. Coalition members felt that the time and effort spent on media to get the message out about the coalition is not being seen or is not making an impact on the community. The work of the coalition is impacting the youth and changing their social norms, but it is not reaching the adults and near peers effectively. The coalition needs to expand from just the coalition meeting to other group meetings, such as: Human Resource Council, Rotary, Child Abuse Prevention Council, etc.

Coalition members were surprised by the low stage of readiness concerning underage drinking in Van Buren County. Their surprise came from the knowledge of the work that has been completed in the county with the Drug Free Communities Grant over the past nine years and the affect it has had with environmental strategies and results on the IYS.