



Put In Your 2¢ Worth...

About 2¢ a drink yields \$44 million annually to reduce the impact of alcohol problems in Missouri.

Question:

Is the faith community involved in Missouri's efforts to reduce the impact of alcohol misuse, abuse and addiction on our people?

Answer:

Yes. Increasing numbers of clergy, congregations and denominations are acknowledging important roles in this area, and are joining in organized efforts to reduce alcohol-related problems, both in their own circles and in their communities, through emphasis on spiritual values combined with scientific data.

MISSOURI ALCOHOL IMPACT FACT #11

- Action on alcohol problems by faith communities has been given significant attention in the President's Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, and by the publication of a landmark study, "So Help Me God: Substance Abuse, Religion and Spirituality," published by Columbia University.¹
- In Missouri, St. Louis-based Committed Caring Faith Communities, and its statewide Faith Community Substance Abuse Resource Network, have brought together an interfaith assembly of individuals seeking to coordinate the faith community's response to these issues.²
- The United Methodist Church, through the work of its Missouri Task Force on Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs, has adopted comprehensive resolutions updating alcohol policy, by action at its annual Missouri Conference (2003), and at its quadrennial General Conference (2004), representing more than 11 million people.
- The resolutions include this statement: "that the United Methodist Church support public policy proposals that would increase the rates of fees and excise taxes paid by the industry to the various states for the privilege of selling beer, wine and spirits, with proceeds earmarked for the development of prevention, treatment and other measures to reduce alcohol-related problems."³

¹ White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, Washington DC 20502; National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, Columbia University, NYC, November 2001.

² Contact CCFC, P.O. Box 11910, St. Louis, MO 63112

³ United Methodist Church 2004 Book of Resolutions, Page 241.

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